

Faculty Change Punishments, Honors

Academic Probation Bar Lowered

By Teresa Joerges
Bulletin Staff Writer

The faculty simplified academic probation and suspension rules at their Feb. 3 meeting. The new probation rules will take effect in the fall semester of 1999.

The policy revisions, which were proposed by Adrienne May, assistant dean of academic services, change the rules so that students will only be reviewed and notified of their suspension after the spring semester. Students placed on academic probation will only be suspended during the fall semester.

"I am very pleased and grateful that the faculty agreed to the changes," May said. "They are a benefit to the students and college at large."

Phil Hall, vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty, also agrees with the new policy.

"It's going to be a lot simpler and easier to understand, which is a good thing, I think," he said.

The new policy also changes the relationship between grade point average and credit hours. Under the old policy, a student was put on probation when his or her grade point average fell below 2.0. If it remained below 2.0 while the student was on probation, that student was suspended for one or two semesters, depending



Diana May/Bullet

Phil Hall, vice president of academic affairs and dean of the faculty, watches as the faculty lowers suspension criteria.

upon how low the grade point average fell.

The new policy lowers the grade point average criteria to make it harder for students to be suspended, and makes the minimum average a student is allowed dependent upon the number of credit hours that student has completed. May said that the first time students are suspended, it will be for only one semester, regardless of their grade point average or credits earned. A second suspension will last two semesters. Students will be expelled if they fail to meet the grade point average a third time.

"That again is a little more lenient. You don't get three strikes in the old

policy, you just get two," Hall said.

For example, according to the old policy, a student on probation with 35 credits who has a grade point average of 1.6 would be suspended for two semesters, while under the new policy, the student would still be on probation because he or she did not slip beneath a 1.5.

According to Hall, one important reason for the changes is the new computer database that the college is installing. The database is unable to process the formula currently used to determine suspension, Hall said, which brought about the need to simplify the

see PROBATION, page 12

Grade-Based Honors Nixed After 1999

By Penny Beverage
and Sean Young
Bulletin Staff Writers

Last Wednesday, the faculty discontinued the policy of awarding final and intermediate honors at graduation.

The faculty eliminated intermediate and final honors, which are awarded to students who accumulate a grade point average of 3.75 or better in their first 56 credit hours and their last 56 credit hours, respectively. The elimination of the honor was made in response to a motion made by the Office of the Registrar.

The Office of the Registrar must calculate the awards manually for each student, which they said was too much work for their office to handle.

That is why the registrar's office wants the honors eliminated, according to Constance Diamant, registrar and director of summer sessions.

"It is very difficult to calculate—it has to be done manually," Diamant said.

According to Phil Hall, vice president of academic affairs and dean of the faculty, calculating the two honors took a great amount of time compared to the few students who actually ever qualified for them.

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Diana May/Bullet

Mary Rigby, assistant professor of English, felt the American studies requirement was not needed.

American Studies Requirement Killed

By Mark H. Rodeffer
Bulletin Assistant News Editor

The Mary Washington College Board of Visitors at its last meeting reversed an earlier decision and resolved not to change the college's general education requirements by adding an American studies requirement.

The BOV passed a resolution stating that the college's current general education requirements are sufficient. This motion nullified a Sept. 19 BOV resolution to create an American studies requirement which would have forced students to take classes in American history, American literature or American government.

The BOV's attempt to create the new requirement came in response to Virginia House Joint Resolution 346, in which the state legislature called on Virginia universities to require students to take American studies classes in order to make them better citizens.

Vincent DiBenedetto, vice-rector of the BOV, said that the board now feels that the requirements they proposed in September are unneeded.

"We feel like our student body is not in need of a great deal of [preparation for citizenship]. We already offer quite a bit," he said.

The BOV's change of heart occurred only after the faculty passed a resolution in October expressing their opposition to any changes in the general education requirements. The resolution stated that general education requirements and the curriculum offered at the school are the domain of the faculty.

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Governor Proposes Cutting Tuition 20 Percent

By Matt Cliszis
Bulletin Business Manager

In-state students could be saving a lot of money next year. Gov. Jim Gilmore proposed a reduction in tuition fees that is currently under consideration by Virginia's General Assembly. The initiative plans to save Mary Washington's affected students \$536 yearly.

"The Governor's 20 percent tuition and fee rollback is certainly well on its way to final passage by the General Assembly," said Paul Nardo, associate director for communications for the Virginia State Council for Higher Education.

Gilmore proposed the rollback in December, hoping to relieve \$75 million for Virginia's undergraduate college students attending public colleges or universities. According to a press release, this relief will affect over 163,000 students and save them an average of \$456 per-year statewide.

In his December press release, Gilmore said, "We must make college affordable to all Virginians, and that is why I am proposing this tuition rollback. This rollback comes from my commitment to providing a quality and affordable higher education system for the citizens of the Commonwealth."

Said sophomore Jessica Mellington, "For me, it's great because I'm paying my way through school. A reduction would really help save me a lot of money."

In fact, the reduction in tuition will be balanced out by an identical amount of money funded by the state to the colleges and universities. Of the \$75 million, Mary Washington will be receiving \$1,461,690.

According to Midge Poeyck, executive vice president and chief financial officer for the college, one of the primary operating funds for the college is the Educational and General Fund, which is used for instructional and academic support programs. It is funded by both state appropriations and tuition payments. When the student tuition is lowered, the

state will make up the exact figures. That number won't change, she said.

"Essentially, there is no change in the bottom line—it is simply a shift in the split," Poeyck said.

Poeyck also said that the exact figures for MWC's 1999-2000 tuition will not be set until the April Board of Visitors meeting, but out-of-state students will not be affected in any way.

"I think [that's] a great idea," said sophomore Jacquie Frank, "as long as it doesn't affect the out-of-state students in the long run."

The tuition and fees for Mary Washington for the 1998-99 academic year are \$2682 for Virginia residents. If the proposal passes, next year's rates will drop to \$2146, saving the students over \$500 in yearly tuition.

"It's just like any other bill—it probably won't get passed in its original form," said Rebecca Greene, a senior and

see TUITION, page 2



Diana May/Bullet

Junior Derek DeCoryell may be paying lower tuition next year.

Wilder Gets New Job Title, Duties

By Shawna Shepherd
Bulletin Assistant News Editor

Martin Wilder has had his job title changed from vice president for admissions and financial aid to vice president for enrollment management and dean of admissions. Along with his new job title, Wilder has taken on new duties and more pay.

This promotion will take Wilder away from the day-to-day operational work of the Office of Admissions, which selects the high school applicants that will be admitted to the college, and toward a larger role in the enrollment management process of the college.

"With the addition of the James Monroe Center [for Graduate and Professional Studies] and all its new programs, the admissions and marketing picture for the college gets much more complicated than it used to be," said Phil Hall, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty. "We need to have somebody in charge of the whole multi-faceted operation."

The business of enrollment management, according to Hall, includes

formulating enrollment projections and developing annual and long-range enrollment plans to meet the needs of various academic programs and state budget concerns.

Wilder said that including enrollment management into his job will bring better cohesion to the admissions office and its programs.

"This represents a structural reorganization in an attempt to bring greater coordination and coherence to the college's recruitment and enrollment process," said Wilder.

Wilder said that now was the time for the office to restructure because of the college's planned expansion in the near future.

"Most colleges and universities have been engaged in more of an enrollment management approach for some time. But I think the time may be right here because the college is going through some fairly substantial changes—opening a new campus



Courtesy of Publications

Martin Wilder is now the vice president for enrollment management and dean of admissions.

and broadening admission to the college." Wilder said that the college will create a separate admissions office for the new Stafford campus.

"Of course, [the Office of Admissions] will have a presence on the new campus, but it remains to be seen whether that will be the primary location and [the Fredericksburg campus office] will be the satellite location or the other way around. That will be

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MWC Training Stafford Teachers In Computers

By Travis Bjorklund
Bulletin Staff Writer

Stafford County teachers are going back to school with a little help from Mary Washington College.

Over the next few weeks, 70 teachers from Stafford County schools will participate in a computer certification program that will teach them how to use computer technology in their classrooms. According to Meta Braymer, dean of graduate and professional education, the classes are being taught at Stafford County High School and on campus in Trinkle Hall by instructors from Mary Washington College.

According to Mike Ballard, coordinator of instructional technology for Stafford County schools, the state government has required that by 2002 all instructional personnel in public school systems demonstrate proficiency in eight areas of computer technology.

Ballard said that the classes offered by MWC will certify the Stafford teachers in the eight core areas, which include the ability to use computer productivity tools for professional use and the knowledge of ethical

and legal issues relating to the use of technology.

According to Braymer, the college has been developing this program since 1995 with the help of all the surrounding school systems. They offered similar classes in the fall of 1997 for Fredericksburg city teachers.

Some of the instructors teaching these classes are MWC professors and others are outside instructors hired and certified to teach by the college, Braymer said.

According to Ballard, a total of 70 Stafford teachers from elementary, middle and high schools are attending the classes, which started Jan. 8 at several sites in Stafford County and on the Fredericksburg MWC campus.

The college is offering seven different one-credit classes to the 70 Stafford teachers. The county is paying the college \$119 per-credit hour for each class the teachers take. Braymer said that, after the college pays the instructors and the overhead, it will make approximately \$15,000 of profit that will go into the college's fund.

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Inside

Opinions: A student disagrees with Nader's views. Page 3.

Features: The Simpsons loved by many at MWC. Page 4.

Sports: Women's basketball loses second straight game. Page 6.



Weekend Weather

Friday: Thunderstorms. High 64. Low 45.
Saturday: Showers. High 44. Low 32.
Sunday: Snow. High 29. Low 24.



Police Beat

By Nicole Ramer
Bulletin Staff Writer

ILLNESS/INJURY

- Feb. 8—An intoxicated student in Marshall Hall was transported to Night Haven by campus police.
- Feb. 8—A student in Mason Hall suffered an uncontrollable nosebleed. Campus police took the student to the emergency room.
- Feb. 8—A student reported his bike stolen from the Mason Hall parking lot. The bike is valued at \$280.
- Feb. 8—A student fell and injured herself in the Sunken Road parking lot. A friend transported the student to the hospital.

LARCENY

- Feb. 3—A projector, valued at \$5000, was reported stolen from Monroe Hall.
- Feb. 6—A student reported a wallet, valued at \$40, missing.
- Feb. 8—A student reported articles of clothing stolen from the women's locker room in Goodrick Hall.
- Feb. 9—A student reported a wheel stolen from a bike in the Sunken Road parking lot.

VANDALISM

- Feb. 3—A window on the second floor of the Simpson Library was broken.

MISC.

- Feb. 1—Chad Herdon of Fredericksburg was arrested for driving after being declared a habitual driving offender, a felony.
- Feb. 3—Several students in Ball and Custis halls reported a suspicious looking white male to the campus police. The police located the individual and issued a barment notice, which forbids him to trespass on campus.
- Feb. 4—A student in Willard Hall received a suspicious phone call. A police information report was filed.
- Feb. 4—A student in Mason Hall reported that a computer had been tampered with. Police say that the incident is currently under investigation.
- Feb. 5—Campus police were called because of a suspicious odor in Jefferson Hall. The odor was found to be from incense.
- Feb. 8—There was an administrative seizure of marijuana in Russell Hall.

S.G.A. Beat

By Mayliyan Pak
SGA Press Secretary

- Sophomore Kelly Turcic moved that the Safety Committee repaint the lines in the Thornton Street lot to make the lanes wider and make a connecting lane between the lots so people can exit the lot without having to back out onto the street. The motion passed.

- Freshman Mariah Fore moved that the Welfare Committee, in conjunction with the Community Relations Committee, look into lifting the restriction on residential student parking on the college side of College Avenue from Fridays starting at 5 p.m. to

Mondays ending at 7 a.m. The motion passed.

- Junior Shannon Hutchinson moved that the Handbook Committee look into changing the handbook to require that the Association of Residence Halls president be a residential student. The motion passed.

- Senior Chris Hitzelberger made a motion that the Publicity Committee look into distributing election information to all professors so they can announce elections in their classes. The motion passed.

- Sophomore Ashley Groesbeck moved that the Welfare Committee work on getting more washing machines in Marshall Hall. The motion passed.

Corrections

In the Feb. 4, 1998 article entitled "Suspended Officer Returns, Is Demoted" former first sergeant Steve Simmons' previous salary was incorrectly listed as \$29,738. The correct salary is \$29,083.

In the Feb. 4, 1998 article entitled "Alumni Fighting to Save Mary Washington Name" the writer's name was incorrectly spelled Lena Penalosa. The correct name is Lina Penalosa.

In the Feb. 4 article entitled "Class Council Votes Out Sophomore VP" Jenny Moss, president of Class Council, was incorrectly quoted as saying that Bedell had turned in a report a month late. She actually said that Bedell handed in two reports two weeks late.

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chairperson of the campus-based Legislative Action Committee, which deals with legislative issue affecting the college. "It has just hit the floor [of the Virginia Senate]."

If the bill passes in its original form, average in-state tuition and fees will decrease from \$2896 to \$2312, a 20 percent reduction. Since 1990, tuition costs for four-year institutions have increased 66%, according to a study done by the Virginia State Council for Higher Education.

Instituting this reduction would place Virginia higher in various national standings. According to a publication from the Office of the Governor, the reduction will move Virginia to the 21st position from its current spot of 16th place, in terms of low tuition costs nationally.

According to the publication, Virginia's schools cost 30 percent more than the national average.

If the proposal passes, Virginia state schools will be 13 percent above the national average.

"It will allow more students to afford a college education," said sophomore Jessica Osl. "It also will save my family a lot of money."

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determined by space consideration and the flow of the applications."

Wilder said that he is currently concentrating his efforts on the recruitment and admission of students for the James Monroe Center, which is expected to open in Stafford County in August.

Wilder said that he is focusing on stepping up the marketing efforts for the James Monroe programs by working on publication development, advertising, direct mail to prospective applicants, and developing application forms in order to promote the Center.

"We are getting ready to open a campus in a very short time. In order to ensure that we have the enrollments that need to be there, it is all about marketing and promotion and making people aware of the opportunities," he said.

Wilder is applying similar marketing techniques to the center that he has used for the undergraduate admissions in the past, he said.

"It is kind of what we have done with admissions for many years. With the James Monroe program, it is a different audience, but many of the same marketing techniques apply to the recruitment of students."

Wilder said that the opening of the James Monroe campus in Stafford will require program changes for departments that fall under the umbrella of the James Monroe Center.

"When we talk about the James Monroe Center for Graduate and Professional Studies, we need to think programatically and not just in terms of a physical location, because the largest program that will be under that center right now will be the [Bachelor of Liberal Studies] program. And the [Bachelor of Liberal Studies] program is not moving to Stafford. The program is staying right here," he said.

Another facet of the business of enrollment management that Wilder is responsible for is student retention, which is the process of trying to minimize the number of students who leave the college without finishing their degrees.

Wilder said that, compared to the national average of retention among colleges, MWC's numbers are high. However, Wilder said that the college can do better among peer institutions.

"I don't know yet of specific programs. The idea is to focus greater attention on [retention] as a priority for the college. So what I will be

attempting to do is to help us to understand what is going on with students in terms of why students are not persisting in graduating at a higher rate, and then try to coordinate efforts. You have to involve all elements of the campus."

Although the vice president for financial aid title has been dropped, Wilder will continue to administratively supervise the department, involving all aspects of student financial aid and scholarships.

Wilder's new position was requested by both college president William Anderson and Hall and includes a pay raise. Human Resources declined to comment on his salary or raise.

The Bulletin filed a Freedom of Information Act to get Wilder's new salary but the college has not yet responded.

Hall said that Wilder is very experienced and well-prepared to handle the increased responsibilities of his new job.

"I'm really delighted because he's a top-notch guy with tremendous experience who obviously knows the college and its programs very well after the years he's been here," he said.



Compiled by Eric Tolbert

World Mourns Death Of King Hussein

King Hussein of Jordan died on Sunday at the age of 63 after a long struggle with lymphoma. The country held a national memorial service for Hussein, who ruled Jordan for decades, in the Jordanian capital of Amman. Middle Eastern leaders such as Palestinian President Yasir Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu put their political differences aside to attend the service.

Although he led Jordan to war with Israel in 1967, Hussein had in recent years gained a reputation as a peacemaker, and his death is being heavily mourned in Israel as well as in other places around the world. Hussein recently passed on his power to his son Abdullah, 37, before dying.

President's Impeachment Trial Nears End

On Tuesday, the United States Senate began final deliberations in the impeachment trial of President Clinton. The deliberations are being conducted behind closed doors despite protests by every Democratic senator and several Republican senators.

Each senator is allotted 15 minutes to speak about the two articles, which claim that Clinton lied about his relationship with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky and that Clinton obstructed justice by trying to cover up the relationship. Although Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss) told senators to be as brief as possible, many senators said they did not expect a final decision on the two articles of impeachment before Thursday.

Kosovo Peace Talks Continue

Peace talks between warring ethnic Albanians and Serbs in the Balkans region of Europe continued for the second week. The Serbian region of Kosovo has been the sight of nearly 2,000 deaths and the forced migration of 300,000 in the past year since hostilities began between the two groups.

Virginia Clamps Lid On Trash Imports

The Virginia House of Delegates Tuesday approved a bill that would severely limit the amount of trash state landfills can import. Virginia is the second largest state importer of trash in the country. The bill would ban trash barges from Virginia waterways and put a cap on the amount of trash large landfills can receive from outside the state. The bill will now proceed to the Virginia Senate.

Suspects Lead State Police On Car Chase In Stafford

Two men suspected of stealing cars in Stafford County led state police on a car chase up Interstate 95 on Tuesday afternoon. The suspects, whose names have not been released, crashed into a bus on I-95 near Lorton, Va. Police said that the suspects were not seriously injured and are in police custody.

Campus Information

- All visitors to Belmont, the Gari Melchers Estate and Memorial Gallery, during February will be admitted half price. The discount is part of a special promotion by the gallery to attract more residents. The gallery, which is located at 224 Washington St. in Falmouth, Va., will reduce its rates to \$2 for adults, Mondays through Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 1-4 p.m. on Sundays. Children aged 6-18 will be admitted for 50 cents and children aged 6 and under are admitted free. For more information call 654-1015.

- Claudia Andrews, associate professor of English, will read from her works of poetry on the public radio program "With Good Reason," which will air on Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. on Fredericksburg-area station WCVB 88.9. The topic of the program will be "Shakespeare in Love." Andrews will be just one of many professors

from Virginia universities reading their poetry on the broadcast. The program will re-air Sunday at 12 a.m. on WAMU 88.5 FM. For more information call 654-1055.

- Emmanuel C. Eze, professor of philosophy at Bucknell University, will give a lecture entitled "Achieving Our Humanity: Race and Reason in the Age of Enlightenment" on Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. in the Red Room of the Woodard Campus Center. The lecture is free. For more information call 654-1044.

- Edward Ball will be giving a lecture entitled "Slaves in the Family" as part of Black History Month on Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. in the Red Room of the Woodard Campus Center. The lecture is free. For more information call 654-1044.

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Although DiBenedetto now agrees with the faculty that the American studies requirement is not needed, he said that the BOV does have the right and the duty to change general education requirement if they deem it necessary.

"We came back and told them, 'that's not interference.' It's our job to look at these things and make decisions. They were quite right in pointing out that that's what we hire them to do," DiBenedetto said.

John Morello, assistant vice president for academic affairs, said that the college's current general education requirements already prepare students to be good citizens, which was the intent of House Joint Resolution 346.

"A lot of courses aren't strictly American history, but nonetheless deal with issues vital to citizenship," he said. "Our point was that there's a lot to being a citizen, and American history is part of that, but there are other things important as well."

DiBenedetto said that the original BOV resolution was not well thought out.

"It was a spur of the moment, poorly written resolution," he said. "What we should have done was direct the faculty and administration to look into this and determine how much in compliance with this resolution are we already, and where we're lacking, and how we might address that."

The BOV's new resolution states that the board concluded that the existing degree requirements in concert with the extracurricular activities in which students are involved provide students with an excellent background for being productive and responsible citizens."

The Office of Academic Affairs prepared a report to the BOV regarding the proposed new requirements. The report concluded that for a required American history course, nine new sections would have to be taught each year, which would require hiring two more history professors at a cost of \$103,882.

An American government requirement would necessitate 28 new sections of the class, the study said, at a cost of \$321,556 to hire six new professors.

To create an American literature class to meet the BOV's request, 32 sections of the class would have to be taught by seven new faculty members at a cost of \$311,507.

The report had some other options for meeting the American studies requirement, such as combining the three areas involved into a single course required for all freshmen, or requiring that students take a course in only one of the three disciplines.

All those options would be costly and difficult, the report said. "Our recommendation was that our curriculum is fine the way it is," Morello said. "It shouldn't be changed."

Mary Rigby, assistant professor of English, felt that the requirements were not needed.

"We didn't need anything new. Those issues are represented already in general education and across-the-curriculum requirements," she said. Claudine Ferrell, associate professor of history, said that the board should have had a plan to implement the requirement before endorsing the idea.

"We don't have any problem with the idea that everyone should take history, but until you have all the staffing, space and general education changes figured out, you can't make a requirement and expect it will just work," she said.

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OPINIONS

The Bullet In An Era Of 'Negative News'

Obviously, the current trend in journalism and the news media in general today is toward 'negative news.' This means that evening news casts are filled with homicides and that newspapers are riddled with drug dealers and wars. Negative sells, apparently, and it's what viewers/readers seem to be attracted to. A thousand psychologists could tell you why this is the case in another forum.

Quite naturally, this trend lives on the Mary Washington campus. While all articles in *The Bullet* are aimed at neutrality and fairness to all sides, that lofty goal cannot always be achieved. Many stories are newsworthy only because they are negative in nature. This cannot be helped—*Bullet* readers need to no what is going wrong within the Mary Washington society, so that they might contribute to a solution. This is the most important function of the press—to correct wrongdoings or problems within the community.

Newspaper readers also need to know what is going *right*, of course, and *The Bullet* tries to make this a reality as well. Clearly, *The Bullet* prints more 'good news' than most professional newspapers do. *The Bullet* tries earnestly to promote college activities, college theatre, professors who write books, etc. The reasons for this are obvious: Not only is it the right thing to do, but it is also a necessity. A campus newspaper cannot afford to screen out articles because they aren't 'sexy' enough.

In general, *The Bullet* tries to be fair, and tries to live up to that journalistic dream of impartiality. But this dream is not really possible. *The Bullet* can try, but it will probably always fail. It is staffed by humans, after all.

In the meantime, there is a more specific reason for much of the negativity in the coverage of MWC. It's called *change*. Human beings do not like it, and Mary Washington is full of it right now. A trainwreck is only natural in this situation. This school is in a transitional phase right now, and that is going to cause friction. Many of the changes have been unpopular—some deservedly so, others not.

In this situation, *The Bullet* has attempted to remain neutral. But this is a student newspaper, and it certainly serves as a conduit for student opinion. Editorials will probably always advocate student positions. As for news articles, *The Bullet* attempts to present both sides of the facts, with a sprinkling of opinion from the relevant parties. Often student opinion of these changes has been negative, and thus negative stories emerge. One way or another, negative stuff always comes out.

Perhaps society should be blamed. Until we can perfect society, *The Bullet* will plow on.

This school is in a transitional phase right now, and that is going to cause friction.

Mr. Nader Is No Hero

By Matthew Faccenda
Guest Columnist

Being neither satisfied with the religious morality and pseudo-capitalism of the right, nor the collectivist ramblings and post-modern relativism of the left, or the assumption that they represent the only two ideological alternatives to choose from—I never expect to like who or what academia throws my way as cutting edge and "influential."

Ralph Nader, self-proclaimed driver of the "justice bus" and the incredulous dead-bird detective, is no exception.

Nader came to speak of "justice," but never bothered to define it. He spoke of "consumers" as if they were a privileged class above and beyond "producers," but never bothered to mention that the distinction is meaningless: You can't consume if you haven't produced.

And so, in like fashion, he didn't bother to mention that regulation and control of the much-to-be-feared "corporate monsters" means regulation and control of you—and just about every aspect of your life. In fact, he is already meddling with the Internet and proposing pricey taxes for time online.

He spoke triumphantly of "stopping the erosion of your rights," but again didn't bother to mention that his favorite agencies—the EPA, the DEA (not his creation), and OSHA, pilfer, seize, gobble, confiscate, distort, and waste billions of dollars worth of property and money

every year. And he laughably spoke of making things more efficient and just...

He pleaded for us to get corporations out of the business of raising our children (apparently we were raised by Duke, He-Man, and Optimus Prime—the horror, the horror!) and infatuating our lives; he casually forgot to mention what he wants to raise your kids and infatuate your life—the government.

Now, don't get me wrong—some of his conclusions were actually inspiring and some of his accomplishments are sound. I am all for enjoying the outdoors and not becoming a McDonald's junkie, demanding safe products, and seeking to secure the individual rights of all those who have been defrauded. However, I secure my rights with my dollars, my vote, my judgement and with persuasion.

Mr. Nader does it on your time, with your dollars, and substitutes his judgement for yours, and with force.

Instead of looking for innovative market solutions, his statist instincts tell him to look towards more regulation in the arrogant and paternalistic mentality spouted by all closet socialists.

To see a shining example of that mentality, read last week's editorial on student apathy towards "social responsibility" ("Going to See Nader Isn't Enough" 2/4/99).

Though "commercialism" has its negatives,

see NADER, page 11



Valentine's Day Sucks Life From Love

By Meg Weirter
Guest Columnist

Think Valentine's Day. Think fuzzy teddy bears with sappy messages written in script across their round little tummies. Think plastic-wrapped fake roses in piles at the 7-11 counter. Think annoying sing-songy radio commercials for diamond rings.

Think elementary school kids forced by teachers to give little cartoony punnerific valentines to every other kid in the class, thus receiving valuable life lessons in shallow affection and brown-nosing. Think Valentine's Day. Think instant nausea.

Okay, you say. So here's some other bitter chick who hates Valentine's Day. Big deal, she must be too ugly to get laid or something. We're sick of it, you say.

The fact is, I've had Valentine's Days with and without significant others. This year, I do happen to have one, but you can bet the two of us aren't going to bother celebrating. This is something I feel too strongly about.

In fact, a few years ago, I actually dumped a guy for getting me something for Valentine's Day. I must have started telling him two weeks in advance to not get me anything and not to plan any kind of celebrating at all, because I simply wasn't going to have it.

What does the moron do? Meets me the day holding a big teddy bear with hearts on its paws. I thought to myself, if he didn't listen to me in this case, who's to say he ever has? He was dumped.

The fact of the matter is that this was not the sort of guy to just give you teddy bears for no particular reason. He was the sort of guy who had given his girlfriends Valentine presents all his life and was just sort of in the habit of doing so.

Valentine's Day is all about that sort of faked affection, that feeling of obligation to do something to commemorate the day, no matter how unoriginal or superficial.

How many men have realized midway through the workday that it's Valentine's Day and, in a state of panic, had their secretaries hurriedly order a dozen roses for their wives? That sort of action isn't genuine. It's stupid.

The reason I hate Valentine's Day is because I truly am a romantic at heart. Under the right circumstances, I've been known to get teary-eyed after receiving just-because flowers, write really sappy (not to mention terrible) poetry about my mate, feel my heart race seeing my significant other enter a room, and so on.

Frankly, this is all pretty embarrassing to admit. But nevertheless, that stuff actually happens when you're in love.

That's the real stuff. You can't fake it. Valentine's Day is a day when suddenly everyone feels the need to fake it.

For whatever reason, you might not be in a really good mood on Valentine's Day. Maybe you're failing a class. Maybe you have bronchitis.

Maybe last night, the one time you didn't buy

see LOVE, page 11

History Lecture Reveals Traces Of Our Racism

By Jasper W. White
Guest Columnist

I would like to start this letter by pointing out that my only purpose is to represent an incident, and the potential impact it could have on an individual student at Mary Washington College, if that individual were misguided and uneducated.

In my weekly history class, we were going through the usual ritual of professor lecturing, students taking notes. Over the course of the lecture we were discussing various historical events with the usual mundane attitude most people have about history.

One of the topics in the lecture included the rebellion of 1831, led by the preacher Nat Turner in the county of Southampton which is located in Southern Virginia about seventy miles from Richmond.

I was already on edge about how our discussion of the event was proceeding since the professor had already compared people like John Brown and Nat Turner to "terrorists." Terrorists such as the group that bombed PanAm Flight 103 over Lockerby, Scotland several years ago.

How dare this professor create the facade that any of the above mentioned acts were done unnecessarily, since they involved the harm and deaths of innocents to achieve a greater purpose?

The purpose for groups to rally behind is always a topic for debate, so I will not venture further into that area. I will leave that for our "esteemed" scholars to discuss on their time.

As our professor went on to discuss the Nat Turner Rebellion of 1831, he discussed how the men in Turner's group met in secret at the Travis family's estate in order to murder the family that held them in bondage.

Our professor at this juncture of his lecture stated how Turner and his companions drank heavily and ate chicken before they initiated the beginning of the most emotionally potent and historically important rebellions of the pre-Civil War South.

I instantly wanted to disrupt the class in a passionate and enraged debate over the content of his lecture and the casual humor made about these men drinking and eating chicken before risking their lives for the good of millions of others.

I chose not to take that path because the tension in the room heightened as soon as the remark was made; that was no surprise as everyone else seemed to wait for that two second period of time to see how I would react to the liquor and chicken comment. I refused to make mockery of the issue by formulating a full rebuttal at that time, so I chose this forum instead.

I do not want this professor's job, nor do I seek any type of compensation from this institution; this letter was written to show all those reading it how subtle a role the elements of racism and stereotyping play in our environment and our curriculum at Mary Washington College.

I have chosen to make a statement on this issue out of the countless others that exist here because most in my shoes would have simply forgotten about the incident and let their pride heal over time. I chose to do otherwise.

Sure it may affect my grade in that class it could have an effect on future grades with other professors based on my handling of this incident, but I would feel like a traitor to personal convictions if I remained quiet on this issue.

The mirror never lies, and I hope my reflection on these events is a testament to that very fact. We must all remember that the purpose of college is not to get a job. But it is to test the way in which we think, act and feel in our daily lives. Otherwise it is a waste of time and energy.

Jasper W. White is a senior.

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THE BULLET

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Police Beat

By Nicole Ramer
Bulletin Staff Writer

ILLNESS/INJURY

- Feb. 8—An intoxicated student in Marshall Hall was transported to Night Haven by campus police.
- Feb. 8—A student in Mason Hall suffered an uncontrollable nosebleed. Campus police took the student to the emergency room.
- Feb. 8—A student reported his bike stolen from the Mason Hall parking lot. The bike is valued at \$280.
- Feb. 8—A student fell and injured herself in the Sunken Road parking lot. A friend transported the student to the hospital.

LARCENY

- Feb. 3—A projector, valued at \$5000, was reported stolen from Monroe Hall.
- Feb. 6—A student reported a wallet, valued at \$40, missing.
- Feb. 8—A student reported articles of clothing stolen from the women's locker room in Goodrick Hall.
- Feb. 9—A student reported a wheel stolen from a bike in the Sunken Road parking lot.

VANDALISM

- Feb. 3—A window on the second floor of the Simpson Library was broken.

MISC.

- Feb. 1—Chad Herdon of Fredericksburg was arrested for driving after being declared a habitual driving offender, a felony.
- Feb. 3—Several students in Ball and Custis halls reported a suspicious looking white male to the campus police. The police located the individual and issued a barment notice, which forbids him to trespass on campus.
- Feb. 4—A student in Willard Hall received a suspicious phone call. A police information report was filed.
- Feb. 4—A student in Mason Hall reported that a computer had been tampered with. Police say that the incident is currently under investigation.
- Feb. 5—Campus police were called because of a suspicious odor in Jefferson Hall. The odor was found to be from incense.
- Feb. 8—There was an administrative seizure of marijuana in Russell Hall.



Compiled by Eric Tolbert

World Mourns Death Of King Hussein

King Hussein of Jordan died on Sunday at the age of 63 after a long struggle with lymphoma. The country held a national memorial service for Hussein, who ruled Jordan for decades, in the Jordanian capital of Amman. Middle Eastern leaders such as Palestinian President Yasir Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu put their political differences aside to attend the service.

Although he led Jordan to war with Israel in 1967, Hussein had in recent years gained a reputation as a peacemaker, and his death is being heavily mourned in Israel as well as in other places around the world. Hussein recently passed on his power to his son Abdullah, 37, before dying.

President's Impeachment Trial Nears End

On Tuesday, the United States Senate began final deliberations in the impeachment trial of President Clinton. The deliberations are being conducted behind closed doors despite protests by several Democratic senators and several Republican senators.

Each senator is allotted 15 minutes to speak about the two articles, which claim that Clinton lied about his relationship with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky and that Clinton obstructed justice by trying to cover up the relationship. Although Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss) told senators to be as brief as possible, many senators said they did not expect a final decision on the two articles of impeachment before Thursday.

Kosovo Peace Talks Continue

Peace talks between warring ethnic Albanians and Serbs in the Balkans region of Europe continued for the second week. The Serbian region of Kosovo has been the sight of nearly 2,000 deaths and the forced migration of 300,000 in the past year since hostilities began between the two groups.

Virginia Clamps Lid On Trash Imports

The Virginia House of Delegates Tuesday approved a bill that would severely limit the amount of trash state landfills can import. Virginia is the second largest state importer of trash in the country. The bill would ban trash barges from Virginia waterways and put a cap on the amount of trash large landfills can receive from outside the state. The bill will now proceed to the Virginia Senate.

Suspects Lead State Police On Car Chase In Stafford

Two men suspected of stealing cars in Stafford County led state police on a car chase up Interstate 95 on Tuesday afternoon. The suspects, whose names have not been released, crashed into a bus on I-95 near Lorton, Va. Police said that the suspects were not seriously injured and are in police custody.

S.G.A. Beat

By Maylian Pak
SGA Press Secretary

- Sophomore Kelly Turcic moved that the Safety Committee reprint the lines in the Thornton Street lot to make the lanes wider and make a connecting lane between the lots so people can exit the lot without having to back out onto the street. The motion passed.

- Freshman Mariah Fore moved that the Welfare Committee, in conjunction with the Community Relations Committee, look into lifting the restriction on residential student parking on the college side of College Avenue from Fridays starting at 5 p.m. to

Mondays ending at 7 a.m. The motion passed.

- Junior Shannon Hutchinson moved that the Handbook Committee look into changing the handbook to require that the Association of Residence Halls provide a residential student. The motion passed.

- Senior Chris Hitzelberger made a motion that the Publicity Committee look into distributing election information to all professors so they can announce elections in their classes. The motion passed.

- Sophomore Ashley Groesbeck moved that the Welfare Committee work on getting more washing machines in Marshall Hall. The motion passed.

Corrections

In the Feb. 4, 1998 article entitled "Suspended Officer Returns, Is Demoted" former first sergeant Steve Simmons' previous salary was incorrectly listed as \$29,738. The correct salary is \$29,083.

In the Feb. 4, 1998 article entitled "Alumni Fighting to Save Mary Washington Name" the writer's name was incorrectly spelled Lena Penalosa. The correct name is Lina Penalosa.

In the Feb. 4 article entitled "Class Council Votes Out Sophomore VP" Jenny Moss, president of Class Council, was incorrectly quoted as saying that Bedell had turned in a report a month late. She actually said that Bedell handed in two reports two weeks late.

Campus Information

- All visitors to Belmont, the Gari Melchers Estate and Memorial Gallery, during February will be admitted half price. The discount is part of a special promotion by the gallery to attract more residents. The gallery, which is located at 224 Washington St. in Falmouth, Va., will reduce its rates to \$2 for adults, Mondays through Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 1-4 p.m. on Sundays. Children aged 6-18 will be admitted for 50 cents and children aged 6 and under are admitted free. For more information call 654-1015.

- Claudia Andrews, associate professor of English, will read from her works of poetry on the public radio program "With Good Reason," which will air on Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. on Fredericksburg-area station WCVF 88.9. The topic of the program will be "Shakespeare in Love." Andrews will be just one of many professors

from Virginia universities reading their poetry on the broadcast. The program will re-air Sunday at 12 a.m. on WAMU 88.5 FM. For more information call 654-1055.

- Emmanuel C. Eze, professor of philosophy at Bucknell University, will give a lecture entitled "Achieving Our Humanity: Race and Reason in the Age of Enlightenment" on Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. in the Red Room of the Woodard Campus Center. The lecture is free. For more information call 654-1044.

- Edward Ball will be giving a lecture entitled "Slaves in the Family" as part of Black History Month on Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. in the Red Room of the Woodard Campus Center. The lecture is free. For more information call 654-1044.

TUITION page 1

chairperson of the campus-based Legislative Action Committee, which deals with legislative issues affecting the college. "It has just hit the floor [of the Virginia Senate]."

If the bill passes in its original form, average in-state tuition and fees will decrease from \$2896 to \$2312, a 20 percent reduction. Since 1990, tuition costs for four-year institutions have increased 66%, according to a study done by the Virginia State Council for Higher Education.

Instituting this reduction would place Virginia higher in various national standings. According to a publication from the Office of the Governor, the reduction will move Virginia to the 21st position from its current spot of 16th place, in terms of low tuition costs nationally.

According to the publication, Virginia's schools cost 30 percent more than the national average.

If the proposal passes, Virginia state schools will be 13 percent above the national average.

"It will allow more students to afford a college education," said sophomore Jessica Osl. "It also will save my family a lot of money."

WILDER page 1

determined by space consideration and the flow of the applications."

Wilder said that he is currently concentrating his efforts on the recruitment and admission of students for the James Monroe Center, which is expected to open in Stafford County in August.

Wilder said that he is focusing on stepping up the marketing efforts for the James Monroe programs by working on publication development, advertising, direct mail to prospective applicants, and developing application forms in order to promote the Center.

"We are getting ready to open a campus in a very short time. In order to ensure that we have the enrollments that need to be there, it is all about marketing and promotion and making people aware of the opportunities," he said.

Wilder is applying similar marketing techniques to the center that he has used for the undergraduate admissions in the past, he said.

"It is kind of what we have done with admissions for many years. With the James Monroe program, it is a different audience, but many of the same marketing techniques apply to the recruitment of students."

Wilder said that the opening of the James Monroe campus in Stafford will require program changes for departments that fall under the umbrella of the James Monroe Center.

"When we talk about the James Monroe Center for Graduate and Professional Studies, we need to think programatically and not just in terms of a physical location, because the largest program that will be under that center right now will be the [Bachelor of Liberal Studies] program. And the [Bachelor of Liberal Studies] program is not moving to Stafford. The program is staying right here," he said.

Another facet of the business of enrollment management that Wilder is responsible for is student retention, which is the process of trying to minimize the number of students who leave the college without finishing their degrees.

Wilder said that, compared to the national average of retention among colleges, MWC's numbers are high. However, Wilder said that the college can do better among peer institutions.

"I don't know yet of specific programs. The idea is to focus greater attention on [retention] as a priority for the college. So what I will be

attempting to do is to help us to understand what is going on with students in terms of why students are not persisting in graduating at a higher rate, and then try to coordinate efforts. You have to involve all elements of the campus."

Although the vice president for financial aid title has been dropped, Wilder will continue to administratively supervise the department, involving all aspects of student financial aid and scholarships.

Wilder's new position was requested by both college president William Anderson and Hall and includes a pay raise. Human Resources declined to comment on his salary or raise.

The Bulletin filed a Freedom of Information Act to get Wilder's new salary but the college has not yet responded.

Hall said that Wilder is very experienced and well-prepared to handle the increased responsibilities of his new job.

"I'm really delighted because he's a top-notch guy with tremendous experience who obviously knows the college and its programs very well after the years he's been here," he said.

AMERICAN page 1

Although DiBenedetto now agrees with the faculty that the American studies requirement is not needed, he said that the BOV does have the right and the duty to change general education requirement if they deem it necessary.

"We came back and told them, 'that's not interference.' It's our job to look at these things and make decisions. They were quite right in pointing out that that's what we hire them to do," DiBenedetto said.

John Morello, assistant vice president for academic affairs, said that the college's current general education requirements already prepare students to be good citizens, which was the intent of House Joint Resolution 346.

"A lot of courses aren't strictly American history, but nonetheless deal with issues vital to citizenship," he said. "Our point was that there's a lot to being a citizen, and American history is part of that, but there are other things important as well."

DiBenedetto said that the original BOV resolution was not well thought out.

"It was a spur of the moment, poorly written resolution," he said. "What we should have done was worked the faculty and administration to look into this and determine how much in compliance with this resolution are we already, and where we're lacking, and how we might address that."

The BOV's new resolution states that the board concluded that the existing degree requirements in concert with the extracurricular activities in which students are involved provide students with an excellent background for being productive and responsible citizens."

The Office of Academic Affairs prepared a report to the BOV regarding the proposed new requirements. The report concluded that for a required American history course, nine new sections would have to be taught each year, which would require hiring two more history professors at a cost of \$103,882.

An American government requirement would necessitate 28 new sections of the class, the study said, at a cost of \$321,556 to hire six new professors.

To create an American literature class to meet the BOV's request, 32 sections of the class would have to be taught by seven new faculty members at a cost of \$311,507.

The report had some other options for meeting the American studies requirement, such as combining the three areas involved into a single course required for all freshmen, or requiring that students take a course in only one of the three disciplines.

All those options would be costly and difficult, the report said.

"Our recommendation was that our curriculum is fine the way it is," Morello said. "It shouldn't be changed."

Mary Riggsby, assistant professor of English, felt that the requirements were not needed.

"We didn't need anything new. Those issues are represented already in general education and across-the-curriculum requirements," she said.

Claudine Ferrell, associate professor of history, said that the board should have had a plan to implement the requirement before endorsing the idea.

"We don't have any problem with the idea that everyone should take history, but until you have all the staffing, space and general education changes figured out, you can't make a requirement and expect it will just work," she said.

e-mail the bullet at bullet@mwc.edu

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Anybody interested should call 654-1133 and leave a message.

OPINIONS

The Bullet In An Era Of 'Negative News'

Obviously, the current trend in journalism and the news media in general today is toward 'negative news.' This means that evening news casts are filled with homicides and that newspapers are riddled with drug dealers and wars. Negative sells, apparently, and it's what viewers/readers seem to be attracted to. A thousand psychologists could tell you why this is the case in another forum.

Quite naturally, this trend lives on the Mary Washington campus. While all articles in *The Bullet* are aimed at neutrality and fairness to all sides, that lofty goal cannot always be achieved. Many stories are newsworthy only because they are negative in nature. This cannot be helped—*Bullet* readers need to no what is going wrong within the Mary Washington society, so that they might contribute to a solution. This is the most important function of the press—to correct wrongdoings or problems within the community.

Newspaper readers also need to know what is going right, of course, and *The Bullet* tries to make this a reality as well. Clearly, *The Bullet* prints more 'good news' than most professional newspapers do. The *Bullet* tries earnestly to promote college activities, college theatre, professors who write books, etc. The reasons for this are obvious: Not only is it the right thing to do, but it is also a necessity. A campus newspaper cannot afford to screen out articles because they aren't 'sexy' enough.

In general, *The Bullet* tries to be fair, and tries to live up to that journalistic dream of impartiality. But this dream is not really possible. *The Bullet* can try, but it will probably always fail. It is staffed by humans, after all.

In the meantime, there is a more specific reason for much of the negativity in the coverage of MWC. It's called *change*. Human beings do not like it, and Mary Washington is full of it right now. A trainwreck is only natural in this situation. This school is in a transitional phase right now, and that is going to cause friction. Many of the changes have been unpopular—some deservedly so, others not.

In this situation, *The Bullet* has attempted to remain neutral. But this is a student newspaper, and it certainly serves as a conduit for student opinion. Editorials will probably always advocate student positions. As for news articles, *The Bullet* attempts to present both sides of the facts, with a sprinkling of opinion from the relevant parties. Often student opinion of these changes has been negative, and thus negative stories emerge. One way or another, negative stuff always comes out.

Perhaps society should be blamed. Until we can perfect society, *The Bullet* will plow on.

This school is in a transitional phase right now, and that is going to cause friction.

Mr. Nader Is No Hero

By Matthew Faccenda
Guest Columnist

Being neither satisfied with the religious morality and pseudo-capitalism of the right, nor the collectivist ramblings and post-modern relativism of the left, or the assumption that they represent the only two ideological alternatives to choose from—I never expect to like who or what academia throws my way as cutting edge and "influential."

Ralph Nader, self-proclaimed driver of the "justice bus" and the incredulous dead-bird detective, is no exception.

Nader came to speak of "justice," but never bothered to define it. He spoke of "consumers" as if they were a privileged class above and beyond "producers," but never bothered to mention that the distinction is meaningless: You can't consume if you haven't produced.

And so, in like fashion, he didn't bother to mention that regulation and control of the much-to-be-feared "corporate monsters" means regulation and control of you—and just about every aspect of your life. In fact, he is already meddling with the Internet and proposing pricey taxes for time online.

He spoke triumphantly of "stopping the erosion of your rights," but again didn't bother to mention that his favorite agencies—the EPA, the DEA (not his creation), and OSHA, pilfer, seize, gobble, confiscate, distort, and waste billions of dollars worth of property and money

every year. And he laughably spoke of making things more efficient and just...

He pleaded for us to get corporations out of the business of raising our children (apparently we were raised by Duke, Ho-Man, and Optimus Prime—the horror, the horror!) and infatuating our lives; he casually forgot to mention what he wants to raise your kids and infatuate your life—the government...

Now, don't get me wrong—some of his conclusions were actually inspiring and some of his accomplishments are sound. I am all for enjoying the outdoors and not becoming a McDonald's junkie, demanding safe products, and seeking to secure the individual rights of all those who have been defrauded. However, I secure my rights with my dollars, my vote, my judgement and with persuasion.

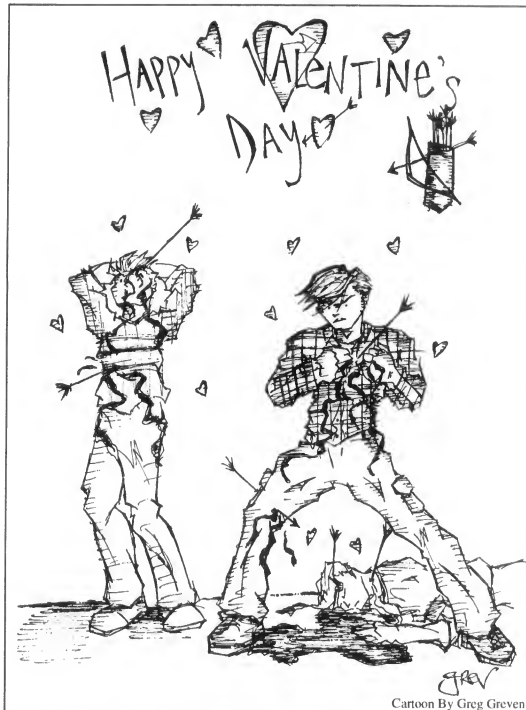
Mr. Nader does it on your time, with your dollars, and substitutes his judgement for yours, and with force.

Instead of looking for innovative market solutions, his statist instincts tell him to look towards more regulation in the arrogant and paternalistic mentality spouted by all closet socialists.

To see a shining example of that mentality, read last week's editorial on student apathy towards "social responsibility" ("Going to See Nader Isn't Enough" 2/4/99).

Though "commercialism" has its negatives,

see NADER, page 11



Cartoon By Greg Greven

Valentine's Day Sucks Life From Love

By Meg Weirter
Guest Columnist

Think Valentine's Day. Think fuzzy teddy bears with sappy messages written in script across their round little tummies. Think plastic-wrapped fake roses in piles at the 7-11 counter. Think annoying sing-songy radio commercials for diamond rings.

Think elementary school kids forced by teachers to give little cartoony punnerific valentines to every other kid in the class, thus receiving valuable life lessons in shallow affection and brown-nosing. Think Valentine's Day. Think instant nausea.

Okay, you say. So here's some other bitter chick who hates Valentine's Day. Big deal, she must be too ugly to get laid or something. We're sick of it, you say.

The fact is, I've had Valentine's Days without and without significant others. This year, I do happen to have one, but you can bet the two of us aren't going to bother celebrating. This is something I feel far too strongly about.

In fact, a few years ago, I actually dumped a guy for getting me something for Valentine's Day. I must have started telling him two weeks in advance to not get me anything and not to plan any kind of celebrating at all, because I simply wasn't going to have it.

What does the moron do? Meets me at my day holding a big teddy bear with hearts on its paws. I thought to myself, if he didn't listen to me in this case, who's to say he ever has? He was dumped.

The fact of the matter is that this was not the sort of guy to just give you teddy bears for no particular reason. He was the sort of guy who had given his girlfriends Valentine presents all his life and was just sort of in the habit of doing so.

Valentine's Day is all about that sort of faked affection, that feeling of obligation to do something to commemorate the day, no matter how unoriginal or superficial.

How many men have realized midway through the workday that it's Valentine's Day and, in a state of panic, had their secretaries hurriedly order a dozen roses for their wives? That sort of action isn't genuine. It's stupid.

The reason I hate Valentine's Day is because I truly am a romantic at heart. Under the right circumstances, I've been known to get teary-eyed after receiving just-because flowers, write really sappy (not to mention terrible) poetry about my mate, feel my heart race seeing my significant other enter a room, and so on.

Frankly, this is all pretty embarrassing to admit. But nevertheless, that stuff actually happens when you're in love.

That's the real stuff. You can't fake it. Valentine's Day is a day when suddenly everyone feels the need to fake it.

For whatever reason, you might not be in a really good mood on Valentine's Day. Maybe you're failing a class. Maybe you have bronchitis.

Maybe last night, the one time you didn't buy

see LOVE, page 11

History Lecture Reveals Traces Of Our Racism

By Jasper W. White
Guest Columnist

I would like to start this letter by pointing out that my only purpose is to represent an incident, and the potential impact it could have on an individual student at Mary Washington College, if that individual were misguided and uneducated.

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Jasper W. White is a senior.

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FEATURES

MWC Students Love The Simpsons

By Mike Harris
Bulletin Staff Writer

Mary Washington College junior Adam Berenbak has a tattoo on his leg, but it's not a Celtic symbol, a line of barbed wire, or his girlfriend's initials.

It's an image of Snowball II, the pet cat of America's favorite TV family, the Simpsons.

Berenbak says "The Simpsons" is one of the few shows that combines humor with an intelligent perspective on our society.

"Me think funny good," Berenbak said. "Seriously, though, it's the one place I can go for real creativity on television."

Across campus scores of other students feel the same way, and they come together every Sunday at 8 p.m. and every weeknight at 6 and 6:30 p.m. to watch the often-politically-incorrect show.

Senior Ben Zupnik is a self-proclaimed Simpsons junkie. Zupnik says he thinks he knows why so many MWC students are hopelessly devoted to the show.

"The reason people are so into it is how applicable it is; the writing is very intelligent. There's some low-brow humor as well. There are so many different kinds of humor that no matter what you like you'll find something funny," Zupnik said.

"The Simpsons" originated as a series

of 30-second spots on FOX's "The Tracy Ullman Show" in 1987.

Audience response was overwhelmingly positive, and it became a regular series in 1990. People have been tuning in religiously ever since.

According to the FOX network website, it takes an extensive team of writers and animators 6-8 months to produce a single episode of the popular show. Because it takes so long, the writing is constantly updated to keep the show's details up-to-date.

Although "The Simpsons" is a cartoon, it could also be considered a political satire that pokes fun at the elderly, the police, Congress and others; the list goes on and on. Viewers also appreciate that the show can laugh at itself.

The show's writers will often even make fun of television itself, portraying people as addicted to TV, living in the world of soap operas and senselessly violent shows, completely disconnected from the real world.

For example, Bart and Lisa consistently tune in and laugh hysterically at the violence-laden "Itchy and Scratchy Show."

Each Simpsons episode has a way of making people laugh, but in a greater sense it can also teach viewers something about society and the world around us.

"If you can be entertained by something



"The Simpsons" is the longest-running animated series ever.

while it's making a point, that's nice to see," Zupnik said. "Even if I don't always agree with what they say, I like it."

Berenbak agreed that the show succeeds at making good entertainment out of mocking religion, the public school system, and government and politics.

"It's not afraid to tackle any issue," Berenbak said, mentioning the episode in which the citizens of Springfield decide that immigrants are the cause of their problems. The town decides that all immigrants should be deported.

The clever satire is popular with a large number of students, whose days practically revolve around the show.

"I schedule my meals, study time and sleep around 'The Simpsons,'" said Jesse Hanson, a sophomore.

"I have barely missed a single 'Simpsons' episode in the seven years that I've been addicted to it," said Alistair Miller, a senior.

John Brauer, an MWC junior, has a crowd of people gather almost religiously at his off-campus house to watch America's favorite cartoon family.

During commercials, laughter fills the room. But when the show comes back on, watchers stop mid-sentence so they won't miss a single "Doh!"

These examples of the show's devoted following may explain why, since its debut in 1990, "The Simpsons" has secured the record as the longest-running animated series.

Junior Dan Ratliff believes that "The Simpsons" could lead to a better world for all of us to live in.

"Nothing brings people together like 'The Simpsons,'" Ratliff said.



The tattoo on Adam Berenbak's upper left thigh is of the Simpsons' family cat, Snowball II.

The Bullet Time Capsule

MWC Women Speak Out—March 20, 1969

"Youngster" Treatment Should Be Disclaimed At The College Level In America

By Tracy Antley
Bulletin Staff Writer in 1969

There is at present a system of in loco parentis at MWC in which the school takes of the responsibility, worry, and final say on all matters pertaining to the student community.

This ranges from large policy-making decisions to residence hall rules. Students can do little at present about some of the bulk of material covered by the administration.

Yet on a lower level we can indeed help ourselves "grow up" out of an atmosphere of compliance into one of decision-making. Student responsibility is at once difficult to explain and easy to desire. In terms of results we have made a great deal of progress in the last year.

Students have taken the initiative to extend late hours, establish YET, promote off-campus living, abolish the dress code (to some degree), and introduce pass-fail courses.

More can and should be done to give students the necessary freedom to mature as well as learn during their college years. Dorm organization here is along the lines of a large orphanage.

Rooms are inspected regularly to make sure they are kept clean, with punishments if they are not, yet cockroaches and mice abound in the cleanest rooms.

All doors but front ones are locked because a girl was raped, yet lighting remains scanty in some areas and a policeman assures a desk aide that he could open any door lock with a pocket knife.

Signout cards must be filled out in detail, with gradually more extreme punishments

for forgetfulness or carelessness.

Indeed, the whole procedure of signing in and out is cumbersome and insulting to people our age.

Drinking at MWC can campus a girl, suspend her if she's asked the right questions; yet the punishment for underage imbibing beyond the confines of our ivy gates is a \$10 fine.

Life, they say, is a series of inconveniences, but it need not be.

When girls wearing slacks have to visit administrative offices, they will often just remove their slacks and wear in a buttoned coat. Could this be worse than slacks?

Many minor and increasingly major annoyances mount up at absurdity until we seem a flock of sheep responsive to every suggestion, even guised in democratic voting procedure.

Rather than youngster treatment, dorms could be run like apartments, with all entrances being open and individual doors locked at the discretion of the renter.

Accordingly, all dorm hours would be abolished.

If this seems extreme, it has often been suggested that policemen be available to open front doors for those returning after two or three each night.

As suggested during the Judicial veep buzz session, there can be several alternatives to signout cards, ranging from a note on your door to a simplified pink card.

The possibility of on-campus drinking is presently being explored by the Senate and administration.

If drinking is allowed on campus, students will be responsible for behaving themselves in a mature manner subject to State laws, not for hiding their bottles well.

The dress code has been changed. We are proud of ourselves. But we let the administration add their own clause—no slacks in administrative offices.

The reason given was that it would create an unfavorable impression on guests to the campus, as if visitors were blind to students until they entered the various offices in George Washington Hall.

Proper respect cannot center around a skirt, or a tie; a college administration of all groups should not judge so superficially.

Girls having to visit administrative offices who are wearing slacks often just remove them and wear in a buttoned coat. Could this be worse than slacks?

These are minor gripes; most people here have complained of them at one time or another.

Student responsibility is a slow process; it is spring, and time for students to tear off another page of maturity—warping rules from the student handbook.

Australia Is "Paradise" For One MWC Student

By Samantha Olive
Special to the Bulletin

G'day my MWC mates!

This is Sam Olive coming straight at you from Bond University in Queensland, Australia.

Let me just say that if a had to sum up my experience in one word it would be: PARADISE. The weather here is seventy to eighty degrees everyday, and it is always sunny.

My university is ten minutes away from the beach, so in between my classes I head to the beach to soak up some rays. I can't believe I have a tan in the middle of February! The beaches here are absolutely spectacular.

The water is very blue, and the sand is so soft and almost white. Sometimes I wake up and think I am on a vacation. But, I do still go to class despite all the excitement.

The classes here are different from MWC because they consist of lectures and tutorials. For each class you will have a lecture where the professor gives you a handout of every point and concept you need to know.

They also rely heavily on Power Point presentations for all the lectures. Besides the lecture each class has a tutorial, which is like a study session.

You have the opportunity to ask questions, and focus more on the material given in the lecture. I would have to say the classes are easier here because a lot of the information is spoon fed to you.

The main problem is understanding the professors with the real thick Australian accent.

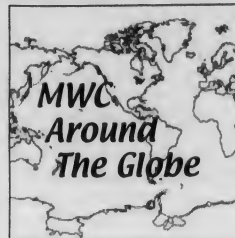
The accent here varies from person to person and sometimes I feel dumb when I can't understand someone because I know they are speaking English.

It is funny when an Australian tries to imitate an American accent because they make it sound so drawn out.

For example, when we say orange it sounds like oraaange when they try to imitate. Other things that are different here are the heaps of people from various cultures and the amount of alcohol that people drink.

There are people here from just about every place in the world including: Norway, India, Sweden, Fiji, Germany, China, and Japan. It is really great to sit down at dinner and talk to people from all around the globe.

I've had a chance to learn about the



traditions and beliefs of so many cultures. And of course I've had a chance to learn the Australian tradition of beer drinking.

I knew when I came here that the drinking age was 18, so I figured drinking would be more accepted and prevalent on campus. Well, that is an under statement.

The Student Council organized a night out to all the pubs in town, and had kegs on club sign on day.

Trust me these people do not need a holiday or even a party to drink, they just do it every day!

Every day in Australia is a day of fun, and I feel so lucky that I got a chance to go here. Instead of watching the NBA games, I get to watch some hard core cricket.

I'm planning on traveling to the Great Barrier reef, Sydney, and other places that I probably won't ever have a chance to see again.

This country is extremely beautiful with its stunning coastline, age old rainforests, sprawling hinterland and native animals.

I finally saw a koala bear, and a kangaroo! I went to Steve Irwin's zoo—you know, The Crocodile Hunter.

He is more popular at home than he is here, but that's cool I still think he is great for wrestling crocodiles and searching for the deadliest snakes in the world.

I would highly recommend Australia as a place to study abroad. I have never in my whole life had as much fun as I am having here.

I will look back at this experience for as long as I live and think about how important it was to my understanding of the world around me.

Derrick Bell Speaks About Gospel Music

Spirituals Sing The Language Of Survival

By Rekesha Spellman
Bulletin Staff Writer

Derrick Bell's presentation of "Gospel Chorus: Psalms of Survival in an Alien Land Called Home" last Thursday night at 7 p.m. in Dodd Auditorium was thought-provoking and enlightening.

Bell chronicled the struggle of African-Americans from the days of slavery to the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's to the present day through gospel music.

African-Americans have used spirituals to cope with racism and prejudice, as well as the perils of poverty. Bell exemplified his message of

through the use of a quote from Alice Walker's book "Anything We Love Can Be Saved: A Writer's Activism" in his presentation.

In her book, Walker says of gospel music, "These songs said: We do not come from people who have nothing... rather, from people who have had everything - except money, except political power, except freedom."

Bell also provided a continuation of his story "Space Trader" from his book, Faces at the Bottom of the Well.

In his extension of the story, aliens have taken blacks from the United States in exchange for gold and efficient energy sources.

Once aboard the spacecraft, the aliens ask the African-Americans to join them in an utopian society free of racism. The aliens also gave blacks the opportunity to return to Earth.

Meanwhile, back in the United States economic and political situations have worsened instead of getting better in the absence of African-Americans.

There is much debate aboard the spacecraft about returning to Earth, and



Derrick Bell.

File Photo

gospel songs are used as a guide during the discussions.

Bell was accompanied by Keith Armstead and The Worship Team, a local gospel group. The group sang several songs such as "Guide My Feet, Lord" in order to provide examples of gospel music.

Students who attended Derrick Bell's presentation found it to be spiritually uplifting.

Tiffany Curry, freshman, said, "Mr. Bell expressed the importance of the gospel choir in the black community. Gospel music gives us something to believe in and relate to."

Shereese Gore, freshman, found the presentation to be "moving and inspiring."

Derrick Bell provided the audience with knowledge that gospel music gave African-Americans with hope in a world that was often hostile to them.

History Professor Researches In England, Writes A New Book About English Law

By Lina Penalosa
Bulletin Staff Writer

Wrestling with a stack of books and papers associate professor Bruce O'Brien arrives at his office for a 4 o'clock appointment on time, but without any to spare.

"Unfortunately," O'Brien says with a laugh, "I didn't have time to cover up the mess on my desk."

The mess O'Brien is referring to looks to have slipped from the confines of innumerable shelves reaching from floor to ceiling on every wall. Even his telephone sits awkwardly on a pile of texts.

O'Brien is the author of a newly released book, *God's Peace and King's Peace: The Laws of Edward the Confessor*.

Griming, O'Brien admits that his original intention was not to write a book, but to compile a ten or fifteen page paper on the material.

"I've always heard that books take over, but thought 'That's ridiculous, only if you let them,'" he laughed.

Pretty soon 10 pages turned into 20, 40 and culminated in a 300+ page book.

The book is divided into two sections, a historical monograph, discussing what happened to the

English Law after the Norman conquest and a second part containing a critical translation of the legal treatises after the conquest from the 11th and 12th centuries.

O'Brien argues in his book, that the English Law has survived the conquest because the French favored it and not as a result of the English's resilience.

In February of 1995, O'Brien was awarded a two-year research grant in the United Kingdom from the National Endowment for Research. He used much of this funding for the completion of his book.

O'Brien says the research actually began during his graduate years while working on his thesis, but didn't really start moving until 1991.

He says that the research itself was a breeze. While in England he didn't have to jump through any hoops to get at the manuscripts and

laws of medieval England or contend with language barriers, unlike in many other countries.

O'Brien emphasized the lack of difficulty in researching his topic by

recounting the experience of a colleague who had to coax her way into a male monastery and could then only spend a few hours each day recopying necessary information. A hole in the ceiling allowed the sun to shine through providing the only source of light. Notes were taken as long as light filtered down.

O'Brien's research in Europe was centralized in London, Cambridge and Oxford, with an occasional trip to Paris.

The book was completed during the summer of 1996 in almost three months with only a week-long break in the middle.

O'Brien is currently working on

two other books, his spy novel being the most fun of the two. Inspired by authors John LeCarre and Graham Green, O'Brien has set the story in France during the 12th century.

The novel is a mixture of history and fiction. Based on a murder in 1125, the story is kicked off with the death of King Henry's only son and unfolds into a plot to discover who was the real target of the murder. O'Brien hopes to have a rough draft of the novel by the end of this summer.

O'Brien is also working on a book entitled *Conquering Babble*. "I want to look at the power of language, how literature was translated and the consequences of that from the 9th to the 15th century," O'Brien said of his second book.

O'Brien intends to dedicate more time to his prospective books during a sabbatical, at half pay for which he will remain chiefly in the U.S., in the year 2000.

Before his sabbatical O'Brien will be delivering a paper at Western Michigan University in May on the difficulty and problems in finding ethnicity in England.

And perhaps with an occasional fly-fishing trip to top it off.



File Photo
Professor Bruce O'Brien.

THUMBS

a features column by the Bullet staff

UP



to the Second City Comedy Troup coming to MWC

DOWN



to the bleachers in Ball Circle—what month is graduation?

UP



to the larger french fries cups in the Eagles Nest

DOWN



to having to pay \$10 for a new ID even if it wears out naturally

UP



to all the money that the Yoplait yogurt foil-lid drive is making for Breast Cancer research

DOWN



to cold and flu season

CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH

This Week's Featured Event: Dr. Vincent Wimbush's Guest Lecture

This Monday, Feb. 15 at 6 p.m., Dr. Vincent Wimbush will give a guest lecture in honor of Black History Month.

The lecture is entitled "African Americans and the Bible: Social Cultural Formation and Sacred Texts."

A professor of New Testament and Christian Origins, Dr. Wimbush does his primary work at the Union

Theological Seminary in New York.

He is also an adjunct professor at Columbia University's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

Wimbush will be speaking in Monroe Hall room 104. This event is open to the general public, free of charge.

Anyone with questions should call x 1044 for more information.



Judicial Week 1999

Mon., Feb. 15

INFORMATION DAY
Campus Center & Ball
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Free Candy
& Sticky Notes

Tue., Feb. 16

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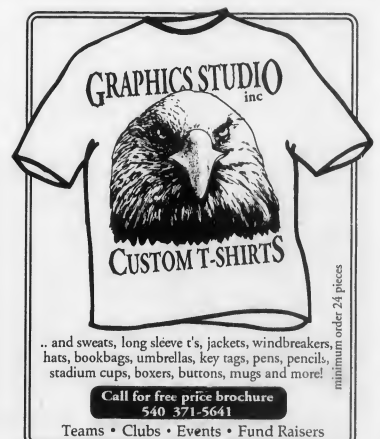
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SPORTS

Men's Basketball Stuns Goucher 63-62

By Geoff White
Bulletin Assistant Sports Editor

The Goucher men's basketball team entered Wednesday night's game with a seven-game winning streak.

However, MWC came back from an early 15-point deficit and left the Eagles in a hole even they couldn't crawl out of.

A 63-62 win over Goucher gave the Eagles their fourth win in a row and improved their overall record to 13-8 and 5-6 in the CAC conference.

The Eagles entered last night's game with a three-game winning streak and an average of over 90 points per game.

The catalysts of this streak have been senior George Bunch and sophomore Phil Klaus, who have really stepped up their inside play, and that continued against Goucher.

The game, however, did not start out that great for MWC as Goucher jumped out to a 17-2 lead. Goucher was able to get some great shots against the 2-3 zone MWC was playing and they did not miss.

The Eagles did hang tough and were able to claw their way back into the game with their own 17-2 run which tied the score at 19.

They were led by Bunch, who scored 11 in the game and had eight

rebounds, and sophomore Bobby Frazitta, who added 14.

Goucher would not give up that easily, however. They came back to take a 34-28 lead at halftime.

At the start of the second half, Klaus dominated the post defense of Goucher. Klaus seemed to score with ease against the shorter defensive Gopher players.

Klaus scored 12 points in the first eight minutes of the second half as MWC took its first lead of the game 46-45.

During the next couple of minutes of the second half, head coach Rod Wood did a great job utilizing his bench, as freshman Anthony Edwards, junior James Brown and sophomore John Steele all made solid contributions.

"My guys did a great job tonight. They really played hard for 40 minutes, and when they play that hard good things happen," said Wood.

With nine minutes left things were looking good for the Eagles. They were leading 51-47 and seemed to have the game under control.

Goucher seemed frustrated offensively as players were unable to get many good shots from the floor.

"Defense really helped us win the game tonight. We did not let their best players kill us from the perimeter and

we did a great job boxing out," said Frazitta.

Goucher played the Eagles tough the whole game and cut the lead to one with two minutes left in the game. Wood then called a timeout to stop Goucher's momentum.

On the next possession the Eagles worked the ball around until senior Burt Burroughs got an open three-point attempt and buried it.

That increased the lead to 63-59.

"Tonight we just took what they gave us on the offensive end; we did not force the action. When Bunch and I were not open we passed the ball out and Bobby and Burt were able to hit some big shots," said Klaus.

Goucher did have one last chance as the reigning CAC player of the year, Bakari Ward, went to the foul line with Goucher down two and five seconds left in the game.

Ward hit the first foul shot, but missed the second. Unfortunately, Goucher retained possession as the ball



Diana May/Bullet
Bobby Frazitta scored 14 points against the Gophers.

went out of bounds off of an MWC player. Goucher was unable to hit a desperation shot with two seconds left and the Eagles had their best win of the year.

"It was a great win. The seniors, George, Burt and Dave, knew what to do in the end of the game, and they did it," said Wood. The Eagles look to keep up the good play Saturday at home against York College.

Next Game: 4 p.m. Saturday vs. York at Goolrick



Diana May/Bullet

The Eagles handed Goucher only their second CAC loss.

Eagle Track Sweeps At Swarthmore

By Teresa Joerger
Bulletin Staff Writer

Both the men's and women's track and field teams finished first at the Swarthmore Invitational last Saturday, with nine individual first place showings by the men and eight by the women.

The men defeated three other teams and the women defeated four. "The team had a really strong performance on Saturday. Not only did we win the meet, but we had a lot of people who won their individual events. It just predicts our success for the rest of the season," said sophomore Natalie Alexander.

"It was probably our most dominant performance to date," added junior Jon Snelson.

Head coach Stan Soper attributes the team's performance to the recent warm weather.

"The weather has enabled us to get in some good practices, which have enabled us to get good

performances in," he said.

On the men's team, Snelson set a new school record in the triple jump. He beat the old record of 42' 1 1/4" with a jump of 43' 10". He also won the 55-meter dash in 6.4 seconds, and the 55-meter hurdles in 8 seconds flat.

"Breaking the record in the triple jump is something I've been waiting to do for a while now," he said.

Sophomore Alex Addison won the 5000-meter race in 15:32, and then turned around to win the 1500-meter run, only 10 minutes later, with a time of 4:15.

"I just ran my race. I was pleased with my performance and now I just have to get my times faster," he said. "Everybody ran really well. Both the guys' and girls' teams are performing well."

"I was impressed with Jon's performance, myself, but I was most impressed by Alex taking both the 5000 and the 1500. He's incredible," added sophomore Mike Merker.

Other first-place finishers included junior Marty Martonik in the pole vault, with an 11-foot jump, Merker in the 200-meter (23.0 s) and the 400-meter (51.5 s), and senior Tom Swigart in the shot put (45' 10"). According to Soper, sophomore Andy Ivie and junior Brian Roberts were also standouts.

"This team has the potential to be a really great team and hopefully we can do this at CACs a couple of months from now," Snelson said.

Junior Kim Alvis led the women to their victory, sweeping three events. Five feet was high enough to earn her first place in the high jump. She also placed first in the 55-meter dash, crossing the line in 7.4 seconds, and the 200-meter dash in 26.9 seconds.

Alvis met the provisional qualifier for the NCAA Indoor National Meet in the triple jump earlier in the season.

Sophomore Yurissa Mitchell placed second in the high jump, also with a jump of five feet. She also

finished right on Alvis' heels in the 55-meter dash with a time of 7.4 seconds. Mitchell qualified for Nationals in the triple jump last week.

Other first-place finishers included sophomore Jill McDonald in the pole vault, with a vault of 7'6", junior Marga Fischal in the 5000 meters (19:35), sophomore Natalie Alexander in the 1500 (5:09), sophomore Kate Nelson in the 800 (2:26) and senior Katrin Banks in the shot put (37').

"Certainly, we had a number of people who scored second or third place who were also critical to the team's performance," Soper said.

The women were proud of their performance at Swarthmore.

"Everyone had a really great day," Fischal said. "It really showed us where we are in our training."

The Eagles will compete next in the Mason-Dixon Championships on Feb. 21 at VMI. Soper hopes that the men can place in the top three, and that the women can finish on top.

Schedule of Events

Men's Basketball

Feb. 13: vs. York, 4 p.m.

Feb. 17: at Marymount, 8 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Feb. 11: at Randolph-Macon, 7 p.m.

Feb. 13: vs. York, 2 p.m.

Feb. 15: vs. Gallaudet, 7 p.m.

Feb. 17: at Marymount, 6 p.m.



Swimming

Feb. 12-14: CAC Championships at Goolrick

Feb. 12: Prelims at 10:30 a.m., Finals at 6 p.m.

Feb. 13: Prelims at 10:30 a.m., Finals at 6 p.m.

Feb. 14: Prelims at 10 a.m., Finals at 5:30 p.m.



Diana May/Bullet

Jill Hollenbeck and the Eagles lost their second straight CAC game. Tuesday night against Goucher.

Women's Basketball Team Hurt: Another Injury And Poor Shooting

Starting Guard Sarah Seale Sprains Ankle Against Salisbury State

By Nicole Ramer
Bulletin Staff Writer

In Saturday's game against Salisbury State, another injury took one more of MWC's starting players.

Within the first five minutes of the first half, sophomore starting guard Sarah Seale went to dive for a ball that was going out of bounds and fell on her ankle. Later, trainers declared that Seale sprained her ankle and will probably be out for at least a week.

"I was going after a loose ball and just fell on it wrong," explained Seale.

MWC trainer Bon Liebau hopes Seale will be back on the court for today's game against Randolph-Macon.

"We take it one day at a time, but our hope is to have her back by Thursday," said Liebau.

With injuries and poor shooting haunting the players, the team lost its second game in a row. The first was a 75-69 loss against arch rival Salisbury State, which is currently ranked second in the CAC conference.

Even without Seale, MWC shot 50 percent from the field. But this was not enough to beat the aggressive Salisbury State defense, which forced 30 turnovers.

The high scorers were senior guard Andrea Sellers with 19 points, seven rebounds and six assists, and sophomore center Helen Huley with 20 points and five rebounds.

On Tuesday, Goucher seemed to be the perfect team to play for a hurting Eagles squad. But Goucher, which is currently in

last place in the CAC, outscored MWC 35-17 in the second half. Due to poor shooting and the lack of free-throw attempts, MWC lost to Goucher 58-49.

"I'm disappointed in our performance, but Goucher did a really good job and hung in there the whole game," said head coach Connie Gallahan.

The Eagles shot 36 percent from the field and 16 percent from three-point range. "The second half killed us. Forwards, when they got the ball inside for a shot, were passing the ball out to the guards for their shots, but no one was taking the shots," said Gallahan. "Someone has to shoot."

With 4:14 left in the second half, Goucher came back from a 15-point deficit to tie the game 47-47. Continuing the rally, the Gophers outscored MWC 11-2 to end the game.

"Our shots weren't falling. We were chucking up a lot of shots at the end of the game and they were just prayers," senior Summer Spedell.

The high scorer for the game was sophomore center Helen Huley with 10 points and five rebounds.

Another factor that impacted the final score of the game was free throws. With about four minutes left to play, Goucher was already in the bonus situation at the free-throw line.

Unfortunately, Goucher shot 70 percent from the free-throw line. In comparison, MWC shot 4 of 11.

"That tells us exactly what the whole game

was like. We were the best free-throw team in the CAC," said Gallahan. "Why we didn't make them last night I don't know."

"We keep taking one hit after another. We'll just have to keep rolling with the punches," said Spedell.

Goucher 58 MWC 49

	FG	FGA	FT	FTA	Rebounds	Points
Salmin	4	7	0	2	6	8
Huley	6	13	1	2	12	13
Sellers	4	16	2	4	7	10
Kerney	2	9	0	1	5	6
Spedell	0	1	0	0	0	0
Harrington	4	7	1	2	5	10
Hollenbeck	3	0	0	0	0	2
Sullins	0	0	0	0	1	0
Priny	0	1	0	0	0	0
Total	21	57	4	11	37	49

	FG	FGA	FT	FTA	Rebounds	Points
Goucher	2	7	1	3	5	5
Bollinger	3	10	1	2	4	7
Huang	3	10	1	2	6	8
Towner	1	12	6	6	7	9
Young	2	5	1	2	4	5
Tolliver	2	3	0	0	5	4
Caplan	1	1	1	1	1	3
Zona	3	5	0	0	8	6
Rogers	4	9	1	1	2	9
Thompson	1	3	0	0	3	2
Kennedy	0	2	0	0	1	0
Total	22	67	12	17	50	58

Next Game: 7 p.m. Today at Randolph-Macon.

Riding Team Places Third At Hazelwild

By Jamie Deaton
Bulletin Sports Editor

Last Saturday the Eagles finished third out of 14 schools at the Mary Washington College Show at Hazelwild Farm.

The meet was the Eagles only home show of the season.

"We were expecting to do well," said sophomore Jordy Keith, who won the walk trot. "Third place is nothing to be ashamed of," she said. Also performing well in the show

was senior Robyn Allizeo, who won the Section C equitation flat.

"I think I did really well. Everything is coming together," said Allizeo. "Our new coach [Kathleen Danielson] has a good handle on what each rider can give to the team."

Other strong performances came from junior Lauren Rizzzi, who finished first in the Section B intermediate flat, and sophomore Aven Hornel, who placed second in the open equitation flat. Katie Breese

came in second in the novice flat.

The Eagles strong performance is even more impressive considering it was their first competition in a month.

"It [the show] was a little hard because it came up so fast, but we worked really hard in the few weeks we had after break to get ready," said Keith.

The Eagles next competition will be at the University of Virginia on Feb. 20.

CAC Women's Basketball Standings

	Conference		Overall		Streak
	W	L	W	L	
Gallaudet	8	1	16	3	W15
Salisbury State	7	3	14	6	W2
St. Mary's	6	4	13	7	W1
York	6	4	12	8	W1
Marymount	5	5	13	7	L1
Mary Washington	4	6	10	8	L3
Catholic	2	8	6	13	W1
Goucher	2	7	5	15	W1

CAC Men's Basketball Standings

	Conference		Overall		Streak
	W	L	W	L	
Goucher	9	2	17	4	L1
Catholic	8	2	15	5	L1
Marymount	6	4	12	7	W1
St. Mary's	6	4	11	9	W1
Salisbury State	5	5	10	10	W1
Mary Washington	5	6	13	8	W4
York	2	8	7	13	L1
Gallaudet	0	10	2	17	L8

Come Out For Women's Rugby!

Practice is Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 4-6 p.m. @ the rugby field at the Battleground. No experience is necessary. Everyone is welcome to play. Come out and see what it's about!

Any Questions? Please Call Sara at x3156

Interested in becoming more involved at Mary Washington?
Become a Bullet Sportswriter:

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- *Talk to players and coaches
- *Gain valuable experience as a writer
- *Add newspaper experience to your resume

Questions? Please Call Jamie Deaton @ x4523

MWC Sports Results

Men's Basketball

Feb. 6
MWC 96 Salisbury State 85

Feb. 8
MWC 101 Villa Julie 78

Feb. 10
MWC 63 Goucher 62

Riding

Feb. 6
The Eagles finished third out of 14 schools at the Mary Washington College show at Hazelwild Farm.

Women's Basketball

Feb. 6
Salisbury State 75 MWC 69

Feb. 9
Goucher 58 MWC 49

Track and Field

Feb. 6
Both the men and women's teams won the Swarthmore Invitational

Athlete of the Week:

Alex Addison

Track and Field

Sophomore Alex Addison had a victorious day at the Swarthmore Invitational last Saturday. Addison won the 5000-meter race in 15:32. Only 10 minutes later, he earned another first place finish, winning the 1500-meter run with a time of 4:15.



Diana May/Bulletin

The MWC Terrapins served as hosts to the synchronized swim meet last Saturday.

CAMPUS RECREATION SCHEDULE - SPRING 1999

EVENT	ENTRIES DUE	START DATE
Dodgeball	Feb. 10	Feb. 12
Badminton	Feb. 24	Feb. 27
Racquetball	Feb. 24	Feb. 27
Bench Press	Feb. 24	Feb. 27
Indoor Soccer	March 17	March 20
Softball	March 17	March 21
Softball Day	March 21	March 21
5 Person Football	March 24	March 27
Ultimate Frisbee	April 1	April 2
Black Top Basketball	April 22	April 23

Swimming CAC Championships This Weekend!

At Goolrick

Friday: Prelims at 10:30 a.m. and Finals at 6:00 p.m.

Saturday: Prelims at 10:30 a.m. and Finals at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday: Prelims at 10 a.m. and Finals at 5:30 p.m.

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ENTERTAINMENT

The Second City Coming To Dodd

Famed Comedy Troupe Visiting College

By Jenna Myers

Bullet Assistant Entertainment Editor

Think Chris Farley, Mike Myers and Bill Murray. Or try imagining the Belushi brothers, Dan Aykroyd, John Candy and Gilda Radner. These people all have one thing in common besides being comedians. They have all been performers and members of The Second City improvisation theater.

Tonight in Dodd Auditorium at 8 p.m. The Second City touring group will perform their own material in satirical skits about today's current social and political events, courtesy of Giant Productions.

The Second City got its start in December of 1959 in a small club located in Chicago. Some of the founding members included of Alan Arkin and Ed Asner. However, the comedy troupe did not start touring North America until 1961, with four National Touring Companies. The Second City became and has remained a training base for actors, writers and directors of comedy.

There was also a television show based on The Second City performances, called "SCTV," on which Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Tim Meadows and Chris Farley appeared.

The group performing at Mary Washington, which is coded with the color green, is one of the three touring groups based out of Chicago. It consists of eight members, six of which are the performers. The other two are the stage manager and the musical director.

According to actress Gillian Vignam, who has been with the Green group for about three weeks, their group could perform up to three shows a week, or even one every two days, depending on how busy their schedule is. On average, the group does about 10 to 20 shows a month.

"Being with Second City has been such a great

experience," Vignam said. "I've learned so much about performing in front of people, and it's now something I feel very comfortable with."

Vignam said that improv acting not only helps the performer learn about themselves and the other members of the group, but it also helps in developing onstage skills.

Even though she has only been with the group three weeks, they have become as close to her as brothers and sisters, and the group as a whole has become good friends. Vignam said that the group has become so close that if one performer misses a line, the other performers are always quick to step in and play off the mistake.

"Actually, I'm just in it for the money," laughed Vignam. "Seriously, though, comedy is something I really enjoy because you can get that immediate reaction from an audience, and it's a good feeling when your skits produce that."

The comedic reaction sometimes gets a little carried away, especially when audience participation is involved. Vignam related a story about an audience member in Sydney, Nebraska who felt like voicing his opinion on the skits being performed.

"He'd just yell 'No!' over and over again in this ominous tone in response to whatever we did," Vignam said. "There was a part where the male members of our group were doing a male stripper scene scantily clad. When it stopped, the guy yelled out 'Thank God!' at the top of his lungs."

MWC students are looking forward to the show tonight. Junior Mike Janik in particular said that he has been eagerly anticipating the performance.

"I knew that Chris Farley got his start in The Second City show," Janik said. "Ever since, I've wanted to live in a van down by the river. So, I'm pretty excited that they're coming here."



The late Chris Farley was one of the many comedians who were once part of The Second City.

Coming Soon:



Pat McGee, seen here with John Popper of Blues Traveler, is coming to MWC.

Pat McGee Playing MWC As Part Of Judicial Review Week

By Dominique Pastre

Bullet Staff Writer

At a school as small as Mary Washington College, it is perhaps reassuring for students to look forward to occasionally seeing good bands play on campus. Last year, the Pat McGee Band attracted a large crowd of students to the Great Hall, where the six-man band jammed for several hours while the audience bounced and bopped to the Dave Matthews-esque tunes.

In celebration of Judicial Week, the Pat McGee Band will be performing in the Great Hall on Wednesday, Feb. 17 at 8 p.m. The Judicial Review Board requested the band, which was booked by Giant Productions.

The Pat McGee Band is a way to get students involved in Judicial Week activities. The Judicial Review Board hopes that a significant number of students look forward to next week's show.

As native Virginians, the band's members emerged from Richmond. Since formation in 1996, the band has become increasingly more popular, especially among college students.

The band has recently expanded its fan base with

sold out shows at such venues as D.C.'s very own 9:30 Club. Like bands such as Moe and God Street Wine, the Pat McGee Band has also made its mark at small clubs including the Bayou in D.C. and the Birchmere in Alexandria.

Having sold over 40,000 copies of "Revel," the band's CD, the band is now climbing the musical ladder. The band's songs are often featured on MTV programs such as "The Real World" and "Road Rules." Since Pat McGee last performed at MWC, it has also released a live CD.

On the side stage at Nissan Pavilion, the band has performed for Jimmy Buffet, Fleetwood Mac and James Taylor.

In addition, Pat McGee has opened for Rusty Root. Recently John Popper accompanied the band at a show at the Bayou.

The Pat McGee Band can be found in Dean Budnick's book *JamBands* (E.C.W. Press).

Considering the celebration of Judicial Week, the performance by the Pat McGee Band should be the highlight of the week's activities. Tickets go on sale soon and cost \$1 for students, \$2 for non-students.

'DINING ROOM' PREPARATIONS WELL UNDERWAY IN KLEIN

By Tammie Willis

Bullet Staff Writer

Imagine the challenges of trying to play a football game with only 11 people to fill 22 positions or a soccer game in which the offense also has to play defense because the team is down four players. Everyone has to take on added responsibility and work harder to make a winning team.

The cast of the "Dining Room," opening Feb. 18, in Klein Theatre finds itself in this very real predicament.

"The 'Dining Room'" has 60 characters in it and I'm using ten actors," Helen Housley, director of the play said.

The "Dining Room," written by A.R. Gurney, uses the dining room to examine how the American family has changed. As a collage of scenes, taking the audience as far back as the 1930s, it is more like a museum exhibit that has come alive to present a talking history of the traditional family.

As a talking history, the "Dining Room" has over 18 scenes in which 60 different characters come alive and interact to piece

together the time line. To fill the gaps between the number of actors and characters, each member of the cast has had to develop personalities for six different characters.

According to Housley, the true challenge has been encouraging the cast to create different personalities for each of the characters.

"Playing six different characters in one performance is harder," Marika Pickett, a junior and a member of the cast, said. "You have to create six different people."

When creating a character, the actor actually develops the personality of the character. They give the character specific mannerisms and ways of speaking or reacting. In a more traditional play, the actor has an hour and a half to two-hours to convey to the audience this personality, which has taken weeks to develop. With the "Dining Room," the actors only have two to three minutes to introduce each of the personalities to the audience.

"It's a double-edged sword," senior actor Emre Izat said. "You only have to

get it right for a short period of time, but on the other hand, you have to do all the same character work for all the characters."

This also means that the actor has to be able to switch personalities with only two minutes of transition time.

"Instead of having one character to sustain throughout the entire play, you have to cut that personality off and introduce a new character," Elena Rousseau, a freshman member of the cast, said.

Rousseau plays characters ranging in age from 5 years old to a woman in her upper 60s. She has to go from a playful child to a knife-wielding woman; somewhere in between, she has to establish the sexual innuendo of a woman captivated by a handy man.

"You are constantly leaving one character behind and jumping into another," Rousseau said. "You find yourself with a multiple personality disorder."

While the actors are constantly changing characters, the setting of the "Dining Room"

see DINING, page 9

Celebrating Spirit At The Gospel Extravaganza

By Ruth Cassell

Bullet Staff Writer

Last Saturday, Dodd Auditorium resonated with the voices of those who followed Toni Cunningham's urge to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord."

Cunningham, the mistress of ceremonies, led the Gospel Extravaganza enthusiastically in celebration of Black History month.

She quoted biblical passages and encouraged the audience to get on their feet and clap their hands to praise the Lord and highlight their culture.

"This being Black History Month, I live to see the day we have a Black History Year," Cunningham commented. "You may not think we have come very far, but you have to look back at what we have come from."

Mary Washington College's Voices of Praise and the James Farmer Multicultural Center sponsored the Gospel Extravaganza. Jasmine Bowling, secretary of Voices of Praise, opened the program and invited the 100 or so worshippers "to help us praise the Lord through song and dance."

All the people who gathered in Dodd,

consisting of members of the community, various church groups and students stomped their feet and clapped their hands and bobbed their heads to the beautiful voices of the vocalists and the rhythmic sounds of the keyboard, piano, guitar, hand-held percussion instruments, and drums.

"I'm here to have my spirits uplifted," Tiffany Curry, freshman, explained.

Exclamations of "Hallelujah," "Amen" and "Praise the Lord" rose from the audience in agreement with lyrics, verses and passages uplifting the Lord and black pride.

"Mary Washington College wants diversity, but doesn't demand it," freshman Devon C. Williams said. "Until we demand diversity this campus will continue to live in a racist mindset."

Everyone seemed to enjoy and appreciate the program.

"I'm here to support and share in the Lord's name and be with those who do the same everyday of their lives," freshman Stephanie Purcell agreed.

The show featured the Mt. Hope Baptist

see GOSPEL, page 9

U.S. TOP TEN FILMS:

Movie

1) "Payback"	\$21.4 million
2) "She's All That"	\$12 million
3) "Patch Adams"	\$4.5 million
4) "Varsity Blues"	\$4 million
5) "Saving Private Ryan"	\$3.6 million
6) "Shakespeare in Love"	\$3.6 million
7) "A Civil Action"	\$3.2 million
8) "Stepmom"	\$2.6 million
9) "Simply Irresistible"	\$2.4 million
10) "You've Got Mail"	\$2.3 million

Weekly Gross



Ruth Cassell/Bullet

Joyful voices rang throughout Dodd Auditorium last Saturday during the Gospel Extravaganza. The performance was part of the events scheduled for Black History Month.

Coming Soon: "8 mm," starring Nicholas Cage. "200 Cigarettes," starring Ben Affleck, Courtney Love, Christina Ricci and Janeane Garofalo.

Coming Attractions...

- **Thursday, Feb. 11: Performance.** Second City Comedy Troupe. 8 p.m. Dodd Auditorium. \$1 Students, \$3 Non-Students.
- **Friday, Feb. 12: Band.** Round 8. Underground. 10 p.m. \$3
- **Friday, Feb. 12: Movies.** "Enemy of the State." 7:00 p.m. "Meet Joe Black." 10:00 p.m. Dodd Auditorium. \$1
- **Sunday, Feb. 14: Movies.** "Enemy of the State." 7:00 p.m. "Meet Joe Black." 10:00 p.m. Dodd Auditorium. \$1
- **Wednesday, Feb. 17: Band.** Pat McGee Band. 8:00 p.m. Great Hall. \$1 Students, \$2 Non-Students.
- **Thursday, Feb. 18: Play.** "Dining Room." Klein Theatre. For information call x1124.

What Was Your Worst Valentine's Gift Ever?

Photos and interviews by Karen Pearlman



"A hot pink shirt three sizes too large that said 'squeeze me.'"

—Katie Parker, junior



"My dog died, girlfriend had gonorrhea, and I found out I was growing back hair."

—Colin White, sophomore



"A bottle of Jim Beam...wait, that was the best thing I ever got!"

—Karen Martin, junior



"Nothing at all."

—Jeremy Sutton, sophomore



"In high school all my non-single girlfriends got me a t-shirt that said, 'I'm single, but that's okay, 'cause I love myself everyday.'"

—Carla Villar, sophomore

GOSPEL page 8

Church Youth Choir, which encouraged the audience to "Celebrate our culture, our heritage, and give praise to the one who has brought us through all these hundreds of years."

Voices of Gospel, a smaller but no less enthusiastic choir, also got the audience on its feet clapping and singing along.

The Family Life Christian Center Praise Team, who believes that the family is the most important entity of the church and community, kept up the pace and reemphasized the theme of the show.

Erica Wise, who began dancing at age 4, changed the pace of the show a little with an eloquent interpretive dance.

Finally, the New Sons of Faith topped off the program with the smooth voices of five African American males singing the sweet soft words of the gospel with the accompaniment of guitar, bass and drums.

Gospel Extravaganza was part of Black History Month. For more info call x1044

DINING page 8

always remains the same, presenting another unique challenge to the cast and crew.

"There is a real challenge when every scene is around a table," Housley said.

She explained that for each of the 18 scenes, the set has to be altered in some way to convey a separate scene, but working within a single set is very limiting. To overcome this problem, Housley has taken the approach of having the actors carry on different sets of props or rearrange the props already on stage.

But the solution also presents problems.

"The set has to go back to its original setting each time," Housley said.

This means that the dining room table is set and cleared 18 times during one performance. With ten different sets of hands handling the china and glassware 36 times a night, something is bound to be broken.

According to Housley, nothing

has been dropped yet, but she does expect it to happen and is prepared. Housley explained that they bought extra glassware and plates to compensate for any dinnerware that might be damaged in the shuffle of scene changes.

Despite the difficulties of stage obstacles and the various character roles, the cast and crew of the "Dining Room" seem to be well prepared for opening night. A review of the play will appear in the Feb. 25 issue of The Bulletin.

The 'Dining Room' is set to open in Klein Theatre on Feb. 18. Call the ticket office at x1124 for ticket prices and info.



Karen Pearlman/Bullet

Juniors Natalie Johnson and John Brauer rehearse for the new play, 'Dining Room.'

QUESTIONS ABOUT MOVIES?

Ask the Film Fiend or the Film Femme and a future column will be devoted to answering your questions.

**E-mail the Bulletin at Bullet@mwc.edu
Or send questions to MWC Box 604**



Do I Celebrate or Not Celebrate Valentine's Day?

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10:00 PM Meet Joe Black

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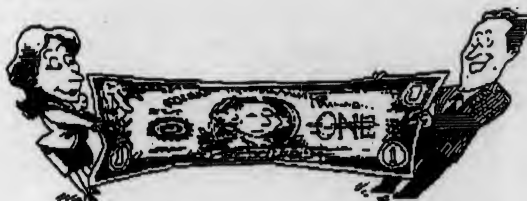
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Dear Bullette

The Valentine's Day Issue

Dear Bullette:

My boyfriend never does anything special for me. We've been dating for about four months now, and what little romance was in the relationship is now gone. All we do these days is sit around and study together. It's so pathetic. What should I do?
Bored With It On Augustine St.

Bullette:

Well, my first impulse is to tell you to suck it up because you actually found a boyfriend, but that would be trite. So what I'm going to suggest is that you designate a "special day" for you and your man. Plan something together, and enjoy each other's company. Or you could let your boredom fester until it becomes resentment, and eventually you start hating the person you are supposed to love. It's all about open communication.

Dear Bullette:

There is this boy in one of my classes that I really like. The thing is that I'm really shy and so is he. We've had a class together for the past four semesters, and we have barely spoken all this time. What would be the best way to show or tell him that I like him?

Meek in Marshall

Bullette:

Jump him, plain and simple. For the love of God, it's a lot easier to talk to him than you think. Go up to him and start talking about your class together, then let the conversation

flow naturally from topic to topic. Ask him questions and don't be afraid to talk about yourself. Remember to show no fear.

Dear Bullette:

I'm really sick right now with bronchitis, but I want to do something special for my girlfriend for Valentine's Day. I really don't want to get her sick though. What should I do?
Coughing On William St.

Bullette:

Above all else, do not exchange fluids. It would really suck for her to get sick. Just send her flowers. They do not involve germs. Apologize, but it is beyond your control. Keep in mind that you don't want your girlfriend to come with you to the hospital when you see the cute nurses.

Dear Bullette:

I am a single guy, but I want some special Valentine's Day booty. What should I do?
Hard Up On Hawke St.

Bullette:

My best advice to you is to stop by The Bullet Office to see Madame Bullette. I'm located in the Student Activities offices in the Campus Center. Bring flowers.

Any questions for Dear Bullette?
Send them in to Dear Bullette,
Box 604, or e-mail them to
bullet@mwc.edu

NADER page 3

its uncomfortable displays, and unpopular heroes, I can't remember the last time millions were gassed, billions of dollars were looted, or a minority was silenced in commercialism's name. But I do know by whom and for what: Nosy government do-gooders marching for a "common good" and a "justice" they never could define. Here is the distinction summed up nicely by Robert Heinlein:

"The human race divides

politically into those who want people to be controlled and those who have no such desire. The former are idealists acting from highest motives for the greatest good of the greatest number. The latter are surely curmudgeons, suspicious and lacking in altruism. But they are more comfortable neighbors than the other sort."

Matthew Faccenda is a sophomore.

LOVE page 3

a lottery ticket, your numbers finally won.

And maybe you'd like nothing better than to just rip the head off that stupid teddy bear with your teeth. But instead, chances are good that during the night you'll go out, paste on a fake smile, and graciously accept whatever gifts are proffered.

The truth is, you'd love to have a cute little night out with the significant other, but some other night would have been a lot more meaningful for you.

Valentine's Day tries to make love, which is real, into something fake, something that will make us badly want to buy Hallmark cards. Does this

thoroughly appall anyone else?

Everything else now is so heavily commercialized and drained of any real life. Why does something as significant and profound as love have to be a victim too?

It won't be for me. While corniness on any other day of the year will make me pink with happiness, on Valentine's Day, it will only make me nauseous. Luckily, my current boyfriend knows this, and won't be making a big deal about it at all. If he does, he knows where he can go, after all.

Meg Weirter is a sophomore.

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Cards

Voice Mail System Finally Fixed

By Brian Decorla-Souza
Bulletin Staff Writer

The campus voice mail system, which gave many students headaches when it went down last semester, is now functioning, according to Voice Services.

The problems with the system, which began in mid-November of last year, caused many students to lose messages and erased students' personal voice mail greetings, instead giving callers a generic message stating the phone number they had called.

The voice mail problems were caused by a hard drive failure and a board failure in the system.

"It is a piece of equipment with computer parts in it. When your hard drive fails you've lost all your information," said Voice Services manager Linda Maple.

Voice Services became aware of the problem after being contacted by students. "After we began receiving complaints, we found that a proportion of the hard drive which runs voice mail had failed," Maple said.

The campus voice mail system contains three units on which messages are stored.

When one of the units went down, some students, staff and faculty lost messages that had been left in their voice mail box and had their personal voice mail greetings erased.

To fix the problem, a maintenance contractor was called in from Comverse systems in Boston, Mass. The information on the malfunctioning unit was transferred onto the two others in order to allow the contractor to install a new hard drive and board to the broken unit.

According to Midge Poyck, executive vice president and chief financial officer for MWC, replacing of the broken hard drive and installing a new one cost \$1,840.

Maple said that the college's voice mail system is old and that Voice Services is looking into upgrading it.

"This is the system we have had for over five years, since the project started," she said.

Only some voice mailboxes were effected, so students and faculty had no way to determine whether their voice mail was functioning properly.

Sophomore Mary Madeline Gilmore said that she was inconvenienced by the voice mail crash.

"I was expecting a very important message and I was waiting all day for it. The phone



Diana May/Bulletin

Voice mailboxes for students like junior Jaime Dowdy won't be losing messages anymore.

never indicated that I had messages so I was just left in the clouds," she said.

Sophomore Ann Macconachie, who lost several messages last semester, is glad that the system running again.

"I'm relieved it's been resolved, as long as it does not happen again. It's one less thing we have to worry about," she said.

TEACHERS page 1

college's general fund and used to pay for student programs.

The state and federal government have helped to offset the estimated \$50,000 price tag of the courses, Ballard said, but Stafford County will have to foot some of the bill.

"The program is sort of funded by grants," Ballard said. "We've got a Technology Literature Challenge grant from the federal government, and a Standards of Learning grant. But part of it is coming out of hide, out of the region."

After they complete the courses, Ballard said, the teachers will return to their respective schools with six free hours of college credit. Ballard said that the teachers who participated in the courses will then have to pay Stafford County schools back by teaching their fellow teachers.

"The plan is that [the teachers] attend the MWC program in the county," Ballard said. "Then they will go back to their schools and conduct 10 hours of training per semester for the other teachers. Teaching the teachers or training the

trainers, whatever you want to call it."

Ballard also said that he expects Stafford County to hold more classes in later years as some of the teachers leave and more teachers are hired to staff the new Colonial Forge High School in Stafford, which is slated to open next fall.

"I suspect we'll probably do something like this again as we go along," he said.

The college is also looking to expand its business of teaching teachers about computers. Braymer said that college representatives would be meeting with representatives of Spotsylvania County schools today to discuss possibly teaching similar courses at Spotsylvania schools.

Braymer also said that the college was looking into making these computer courses available on the Internet so that school systems outside of the immediate area can also pay to have their teachers certified.

PROBATION page 1

criteria for suspension.

The previous policy for notifying students that they had been placed on academic suspension was 20 years old, according to May. She said that the old policy was outdated and unfair to students who live off campus, hold jobs in the area or who wish to appeal the suspension.

May felt that the old policy was designed for "traditional students," who attend classes full-time, live on campus and do not hold jobs.

The new policy will make it easier for students who are suspended to adjust their plans for not returning to the college the next year, May said.

For the past five years, there have typically been 40 students suspended for academic reasons after the fall

semester, and around 70 after the spring semester. Under the new policy, May said, those 40 students will have more time to make alternate housing arrangements, job arrangements and appeal the decision if they wish to.

Many students welcomed the revised probation and suspension guidelines, but had mixed feelings about the grade point average level.

Junior Tara Webster has had friends suspended after the fall semester who have had to adjust their lives because of the suspension.

"I think it's good that they changed it to spring notification because it gives you ample time to seek a new university, if you so choose," she said.

Senior Jessica Tenney, the student affairs council chair, said that she liked the idea in principle but has some thought that the grade point average levels had

been lowered too far.

"I like the idea of the simplification, however, I don't feel that we should be lowering our standards as much as we are," she said.

Hall said that the GPA level was lowered in part because the college wanted its standards to resemble the probation and suspension policies of other Virginia colleges.

"We're not lowering our standards below what our competition had, and I think that the rationale for the changes is to make our numbers more consistent with what other colleges are doing," he said.

Brown Morton, associate professor of historic preservation and chair of the academic affairs committee, said that the new guidelines were needed to make the

system easier to understand, but that the standards were not too low.

"[The grade-point-average criteria] moves up in a steady way now rather than having big swoops and jumps," Morton said. "I think that we have it just right now. Our levels are still higher than [the College of] William & Mary."

William and Mary requires a 1.1 grade point average after 18 credits, a 1.4 after 42 credits, a 1.7 after 66 credits, a 1.9 after 90 credits and a 2.0 after 120 credits. Mary Washington's new corresponding numbers are 1.25 after 18 credits, 1.5 after 42 credits, a 1.75 after 64 credits, and a 2.0 after 91 credits.

According to Hall, if a student's GPA falls beneath the suspension standard in the fall, but pulls his or her average up in the spring, the student will not be suspended, even though his or her GPA dipped the previous semester.



"[The new guidelines] are a benefit to the students and the college at large."

— Adrienne May,
associate dean of
academic services

HONORS page 1

"It's been laborious when only 15 to 20 people qualify for it," Hall said.

Brown Morton, associate professor of historic preservation and chair of the academic affairs committee, said that the way these honors were calculated was no longer compatible with the way the college now tracks students' academic progress.

"The college was doing this sort of horse and buggy at a time when [the college] was looking to move to a more efficient system," Brown said. "This form of honor did not seem to be something we needed to continue with."

Diamant added that, although a computer system may exist which would calculate the awards, the current computer system in the office of the registrar does not have the capability of calculating intermediate and final honors.

"Our computer system is not sophisticated enough to do so," Diamant said.

According to the motion, in the last eight years only

an average of 5 percent of each year's graduating class has achieved final honors.

Morton said that eliminating the two honors did not lessen students' chances to be recognized for academic excellence because better methods of honoring these students already exist.

"The faculty's sense was that we were not in any way lessening a student's opportunity to be recognized," Morton said. "There are better and more useful ways of expressing [the college's] encouragement for academic achievement."

According to the motion, most students who qualified for intermediate and final honors also qualified for other awards, such as distinction awards, and will therefore still gain recognition.

According to Hall, the faculty's vote strongly supported eliminating the honors.

"It was a clear majority," Hall said.

The last honors graduates will leave MWC in 1999.

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